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# ARAB TIMES

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NO. 7724 SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1989/RABI'UL THANI 26, 1410 AH

26 PAGES 150 FILS

## Bomb found aboard Saudi plane; 2 Pakistanis held

KARACHI, Nov 24, (Agencies): Two passengers aboard a Saudi airliner were arrested after the plane made an emergency landing in Karachi and explosives were discovered in baggage, police said today.

The two men, both Pakistanis from near Peshawar in the northwest of the country, had been carrying a detonat-

ing mechanism and were being questioned, police said. They gave no other details.

The Saudi Arabian Airlines jumbo jet, with 343 passengers and crew, was flying from Islamabad to Riyadh last night when authorities in the Pakistani capital received a telephone warning of bombs aboard, they said.

The pilot was ordered to land in the southern Pakistan seaport and the plane surrounded by ambulances and firefighting teams as passengers were evacuated.

A search of the aircraft revealed two sticks of dynamite weighing four ounces (110 grams) in baggage, police said. Police in Karachi did not release

details of the incident until this evening and Saudi officials in Islamabad and Karachi declined to comment.

A Karachi airport security force commander said, on condition of anonymity, that only a loose battery wire prevented the time bomb from detonating over the Arabian Sea on a flight from Islamabad to Riyadh.

"It was a high explosive and would have destroyed the terminal building of Karachi airport, in addition to the plane," the commander said.

The airliner was still grounded at Karachi this evening and passengers were being lodged in a nearby hotel. Bombs have been planted several times in Saudi airline offices in Karachi

over the last three years, killing two people and causing extensive damage to the building.

A Palestinian teacher and his two sons were killed today when a bomb exploded outside a Peshawar mosque used by Arabs working with the Afghan mujahideen rebels.

## Foes blame each other of rigging

### India poll toll rises to 84

LUDHIANA, India, Nov 24, (Agencies): At least 39 people were killed today on the second day of India's general election, taking the death toll in the three-stage poll in the world's largest democracy to 84.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, meanwhile, brought his campaign to a close today in the industrial city of Ludhiana in northern Punjab state where Sikh extremists have killed thousands of people in their fight for a separate homeland.

Shots were fired when opposition leader Vishwanath Pratap Singh made a campaign stop in his own northern Uttar Pradesh state constituency of Fatehpur. He told reporters three shots were fired, apparently into the air.

Rajiv's Congress Party and Singh's Janata Dal party have each accused the other of using violence and vote-rigging in the election, which began on Wednesday and ends on Sunday.

Both sides said they were confident of winning an overall majority in the 545-seat Parliament and there were no immediate indications of whether election-eve opinion polls predicting a Congress defeat were correct.

Indian news agencies reported five poll-related killings in Uttar Pradesh and one in West Bengal state in the east. But the worst clashes were in northern Bihar state where 20 people were killed, including five hacked to death in one village.

The new deaths brought to 84 the number of people killed in election violence since the polls opened on Wednesday.

It is the highest number of deaths to occur in any of the nine general elections conducted in India since it gained independence from Britain in 1947. The previous highest number was 35 in the 1984 polls won by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and the Congress (I) Party.

The deaths today in bombings, gunfire and stabbings and vote-rigging and fraud attempts—the bulk in eastern Bihar and West Bengal and northern Uttar Pradesh states—marked nine hours of balloting across 10 states and two territories.

The Election Commission said today it had ordered a re-poll at 930 of the country's 590,000 voting booths following widespread reports that a variety of parties had been stuffing ballot boxes and intimidating voters.

There was no immediate word on who fired the shots at the Dubrai voting station in his Fatehpur constituency in northern Uttar Pradesh state.

Anand Sharma, chief spokesman for Rajiv's Congress Party said in New Delhi that opposition followers were "responsible for all the violence" in the Fatehpur area.

Singh refused to say whether he thought the shots were aimed at him.

"The aim was obviously the crowd of people, and I was one of them," he said.

A witness said: "It was very close. It was obvious that the



Jaws tamed

Kristoffer Fredriksen astride a shark that he believes attacked him three weeks ago when he swam in a canal at the Gold Coast, Australia. Kristoffer had 108 stitches in his leg after the attack. A local fisherman caught this shark in the same canal. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Another domino falls Jakes resigns

PRAGUE, Nov 24, (AP): Communist Party chief Milos Jakes, the Politburo and the Secretariat of the ruling party submitted their resignations today, the state-run news agency CTK reported.

The resignations were offered at a closed-door, emergency session of the party Central Committee.

They came after Jakes admitted the party had not instituted reforms quickly enough and had underestimated the effect of the pro-democracy movement sweeping Eastern Europe.

The resignations followed eight consecutive days of mass protests in Prague and other Czechoslovak cities to demand democratic reform.

Jakes told the Central Committee he was resigning so that democratic changes could be carried out, CTK reported.

It said the 150-member central committee was debating personnel changes and a new party leadership was expected to be elected by secret ballot.

"Jakes said he hoped the changes would contribute to a more resolute implementation of the process of restructuring and democratisation," the agency said.

Shortly before the announcement, former Czechoslovak leader Alexander Dubcek made his first public speech in Prague since his 1968 reform movement was crushed by a Warsaw Pact invasion.

Jakes, meanwhile, told the emergency Central Committee meeting that mounting demonstrations had brought the country to a "fatal crossroads."

"We have underestimated completely the processes taking place in Poland, Hungary and especially recently in East Germany and their effect and influence on our society," said Jakes, who was responsible for the expulsion of half a million communists after the crushing of Dubcek's 1968 "Prague Spring" reforms.

Dubcek told the throng at Wenceslas Square: "The ideal of socialism with a human face is living in the conditions of a new generation."

"We must unify to raise our country to a higher level," he declared in a five-minute speech, his first public appearance in Prague since the purge and his second in the last two days.

(Earlier story on Page 6)

## Bus plunges into river killing 78 in Zimbabwe

HARARE, Nov 24, (AP): President Robert Mugabe today declared a national disaster as a bus crash that has killed 78 people and injured 26.

Mugabe, who visited the crash site 70 kilometres (44 miles) east of Harare, said the wreckage indicated the overcrowded bus was speeding when it plunged into a river bed late yesterday.

The Zimbabwe leader ordered a full investigation.

tragic loss of life and limb," Mugabe said.

A police spokesman, said rescuers confirmed 68 passengers died at the crash site and another 10 had died from their injuries by noon (100 GMT) today.

Another 26 passengers were injured, many critically.

Several passengers died on their way to hospital after being freed from the mangled wreckage by rescuers using cutting torches, said the spokesman.

A front tyre apparently burst, sending the bus, owned by the private Nhamuburo bus service, into the Chivake river near the town of Murehwa.

## Hirawi elected new President

### Assad backs; Lebanese head of state sworn in

CHTOURA, Nov 24, (Agencies): Parliament today elected Elias Hirawi, a 64-year-old Maronite Catholic agricultural engineer, as Lebanon's 10th President to replace the assassinated Rene Muawad.

In an acceptance speech after he was sworn in by Speaker Hussein Husseini, Hirawi pledged to "adhere to the Taif accord and work for peace" in Lebanon.

He was referring to the Arab League-brokered peace plan worked out by Lebanese legislators last month in the Saudi Arabian resort of

Taif with the aim of ending the 14-year civil war.

"I promise the nation to follow the same path that martyred President Muawad had planned for national unity," Hirawi said. The legislators applauded.

An assassin detonated a remote-controlled bomb in West Beirut as Muawad's motorcade drove by Wednesday, killing the President and 23 other people only 17 days after his election.

Syrian President Hafez Assad sent a telegram to Hirawi saying "I see in your election an honour to the soul of the late President Muawad, who was determined to end Lebanon's torment."

"Your election came as a proof that those who committed the ugly crime by assassinating the martyr President Rene Muawad have failed to block the way for peace and reconciliation in Lebanon," Assad said.

He said Syria, which has an estimated 33,000 troops spread over two-thirds of Lebanon in support of Muslim or leftist parties and militias, would give full backing to the new President and his government.

"Be sure that Syria will continue its sacrifices and support for Lebanon," Assad said.

"(Syria) will back you, the national reconciliation government and the brotherly people in every effort aimed at making the reconciliation process a success."

He wished Hirawi success in his efforts to "crush for ever the partition conspiracy and to achieve the aspirations of the Lebanese people in building a unified Lebanon."

In Algeria, one of the three countries on an Arab League committee mediating in Lebanon's crisis, Foreign Minister Sid Ahmed Ghozali said: "The election is a great success for Lebanon. It fills us with hope."

There was no immediate response from Christian army commander Gen. Michel Aoun, who has denounced the Taif accord and denounced the earlier election of Muawad as unconstitutional.

Husseini, announcing the election to reporters, said Hirawi was elected by 47 votes in the second round of balloting. Five blank ballots were found and one deputy abstained.

In the first round of balloting, Hirawi received 46 votes, two less than the two-thirds majority of 48 votes which is required by the constitution.

A simple majority of 51 per cent of the house members is enough for a president to be elected in the second ballot, according to the constitution.

Hirawi, who has represented the Zahleh region in Parliament since 1972, maintains good contacts with the nation's Muslims as well as neighbouring Syria.

Hirawi's election was announced at 7:40 pm (1740 GMT), 20 minutes after the session started at the Park Hotel in Chitoura, 23 miles (37 kilometres) east of Beirut.

The affable Hirawi was sworn in a few minutes after his election was announced. Reporters and photographers were allowed into the heavily guarded Park Hotel to cover the ceremony.

"I swear to respect the Lebanese nation and its constitution,"



Lebanese Christian clerics walk in front of the coffin of Muawad carried on the shoulders of military police from the American University Hospital in Beirut to the airport. (Reuters wirephoto)



Rima Muawad (right) daughter of Muawad is escorted by an unidentified plainclothes policeman, as she leaves the family apartment in Paris for Beirut.



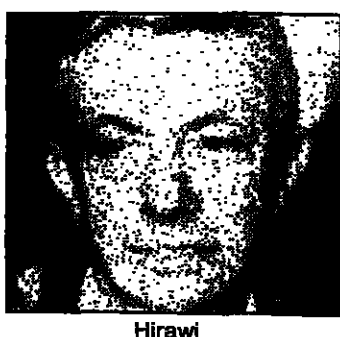
Muawad's mother cries during an interview in her home. (Reuters wirephoto)

Hirawi said: "I swear to safeguard the nation's sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence."

● Earlier in the day in West Beirut, the coffins of Muawad and six bodyguards killed with him were taken from the morgue to the slain president's apartment in Ramlet Baida district where his widow, Nayla, and children, Rima and Michel, were waiting.

The three wept as they joined the convoy which drove the coffins to Beirut airport, where they were loaded aboard a jetliner that flew them to the Kleit base. The funeral was scheduled for tomorrow.

■ Israeli aircraft yesterday destroyed two radical Palestinian commando bases in eastern Lebanon near the Syrian border, killing one fighter and wounding four, security sources said.



Hirawi

## Bush will meet Mitterrand

WASHINGTON, Nov 24, (Reuters): President George Bush will meet French President Francois Mitterrand somewhere in the Caribbean on Dec 16, the White House said today.

Spokesman Bob Hall said no other details were immediately available on the place, subject or duration of the planned meeting.

In Paris today, the newspaper Le Monde said the US and

French leaders were expected to meet on the French Caribbean island of Saint Martin but the Elysee presidential palace had no comment.

French presidential spokesman Hubert Vedrine said yesterday that Mitterrand, whose country currently holds the rotating presidency of the European Economic Community, would meet Bush soon.

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State of sea: Moderate  
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Low water: 4.00 am, 4.00 pm  
Sunrise: 6.20 am  
Sunset: 4.50 pm  
Maximum temperatures recorded:  
Karachi: 24°C 75°F  
Almaty: 20°C 68°F  
Falkland: 21°C 70°F  
Minimum temperatures recorded:  
Karachi: 14°C 57°F  
Almaty: 10°C 50°F  
Falkland: 17°C 63°F  
Maximum temperatures expected:  
Karachi: 23°C 73°F  
Almaty: 20°C 68°F  
Falkland: 21°C 70°F  
Minimum temperatures expected:  
Karachi: 14°C 57°F  
Almaty: 10°C 50°F  
Falkland: 17°C 63°F  
Maximum humidity recorded:  
Karachi: 58 per cent  
Almaty: 50 per cent  
Falkland: 73 per cent



# Pacific balloon flight delayed

TOKYO, Nov 24, (UPI): The planned launch tomorrow of history's biggest balloon on a 150-mile-and-hour ride on the jetstream from Japan to the United States was scrubbed tonight because of a slight breeze just before the hot-air balloon was to be inflated, organisers said.

"It was only a slight breeze, about 2 mph, but even a little bit of winds is too much risk to jeopardise the mission," said project spokesman Mark Harvey.

He said the Pacific Flyer, trying to become the first hot-air balloon to cross the Pacific and also set a new ballooning distance record, may be able to make the flight early Sunday.

"Our meteorologists have said the jetstream is still in our favour and we are leaving the envelope in place on the launch site and the capsule on its side, hoping for a launch early Sunday," he said.

The great silver balloon, taller than the Statue of Liberty and wider than the length of a 747, will carry Briton Richard Branson, chairman of Virgin Atlantic Airways, and Swedish balloon designer Per Linstrand in a pressurized and heated gondola the size of an Apollo space capsule.

If all goes well, the adventurers will rise to an altitude of 26,000 feet in the first hour following launch and use the craft's propane burners to manoeuvre into the subtropical jetstream for a direct ride to northern California in temperatures dipping to 35 degrees below zero.

Project spokesman Mark Harvey said the balloon is expected to ascend over 30,000 feet — an altitude similar to that of a jetliner — and be carried at speeds up to 140 mph to the California coast in about 50 hours.

A Japanese military "flying boat" — a huge amphibious airplane capable of setting down in 10-foot seas, will follow the balloon for the first hour of the flight in the event the balloon is forced to ditch into the sea.

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# Seoul engineer slain

## Lanka rebels torch 46 vehicles

COLOMBO, Nov 24, (Agencies): Pro-government vigilantes killed 12 people in central Sri Lanka today after leftwing rebels set fire to a bus, police said. Meanwhile, suspected rebels killed a South Korean engineer while he was asleep.

They said the 12 young men were killed at Heerasagala in Kandy district in retaliation for the torching of a state-owned bus by the leftist People's Liberation Front the previous day.

Police said vigilantes also shot dead three people at Mahiyawa in the same district today.

Opposition leaders have accused the government of using vigilante

death squads to hunt the front.

In Colombo, a former top Sri Lankan minister living abroad was quoted today as saying he was afraid to return to Colombo to answer charges of defrauding the government.

"I will not be present myself in court due to grave and imminent danger to my life and personal safety," Ronnie de Mel said in a statement given by his lawyer to the Colombo High Court.

De Mel, finance minister from 1977 to 1988, is being charged by the government with misappropriating Rs 2.3 million (\$57,000) during overseas trips in 1986 and 1987.

## Monk takes care of Sinhalese children

# Orphans have a home

COLOMBO, Nov 24, (Reuters): Ravi was fast asleep when the armed men attacked his village.

They killed almost every resident and wiped out the year-old infant's entire family in the northern Sri Lankan town of Vavuniya, but did not notice him slumbering in the corner of a hut.

Ravi was later found by soldiers and delivered to the Sri Vajira Children's Home, an orphanage for war victims run by a Buddhist monk.

The 326 children there represent a cross-section of the island's population, an ethnic mosaic that tells the story of a once-peaceful society now torn by two bloody civil wars.

They are Sinhalese Buddhists, Hindu Tamils, Muslims and Christians.

Vigilante death squads and guerrillas around the country murder about 30 people a day in a vicious spiral of revenge slayings.

When the monk, Vajira Sri Thero, started the home six years ago, there were 25 youths.

Now about ten new orphans arrive each month, brought in by relatives, members of the security forces, government officials or other monks.

Until recently most of the children were victims of violence in the northern and eastern parts of the island where minority Tamil militants have been fighting for six years for a separate homeland.

(More than 300 people were killed in a fierce gunbattle between guerrillas, troops and police in the eastern district of Ampara on Nov 17, local people said.)

"Now the new ones come from



Vajira Sri Thero with three of the 326 war orphans sheltered at his children's home. (Reuters wirephoto)

the south," said Vajira Sri Thero. Security forces and leftwing Sinhalese rebels trying to topple the government are fighting a bitter civil war in the south.

"I don't care about their race or religion," said the lean monk, whose orphanage is situated on 2.4 hectares (six acres) of temple land in the capital, Colombo.

He says he sold his own property to raise money for the project and now gets by with state and public donations of

cash and food. "Other people chose medicine or law as their vocations. Looking after these children is mine," the monk said.

The home, which has sheltered more than 900 children, leads a precarious existence.

At least 200,000 rupees (\$5,000) is spent each month to feed the children, pay electricity and water bills and maintain vehicles.

The former minister, who lives in London, denied the allegations and said they were part of a campaign to victimise and persecute him.

De Mel joined the opposition Freedom Party in January 1988 after criticising the government for not holding early elections. He went to Britain after presidential polls in December 1988.

The judge set Dec 15 as the date of the trial.

Suspected Sinhalese rebels yesterday shot dead a South Korean engineer while he was asleep and set fire to 46 vehicles at a worksite in Sri Lanka's North-Central Province, military sources said.

They said 30 to 40 rebels set fire to vehicles and three small buildings, causing extensive damage to a road construction camp at Melsiripura in the Kurunegala district.

Civil engineer Jun Herchoi, 32, was killed while sleeping in his quarters. He worked for Keang Nam, a South Korean firm rebuilding the main trunk road from Colombo to the north-central province. There were no other casualties.

The sources said the attack, believed to be carried out by the leftist People's Liberation Front, was probably aimed at scaring off foreign investors.

Last year rebels killed two Indians working in a sugar plantation in the southeast Monaragala district.

The sources said troops had detained more than 300 front rebels in a sweep of hideouts, mostly in the central highlands where front leader Rohana Wijeweera was found.

In other incidents, police killed four rebels after fighting off an ambush in Polgahawela in north-central province. Two policemen died in the clash.

At Alawwa in the same province, three rebels were shot dead by police on Wednesday, the military sources said.

A Reuters photographer visiting the eastern town of Kalmutai reported a gunfight between an illegal Tamil militia and Sri Lankan troops.

"There is constant fire. The Tamils are using mortars and small arms fire on Sri Lankan troops," photographer Robert Mountfort said.

## Boats crash, at least 20 die

KINSHASA, Zaire, Nov 24, (AP): Rescue workers have recovered 20 bodies following an accident on Tuesday night between two boats plying the Zaire river north of Kinshasa, local police said yesterday.

The accident near Kutu, 300 kilometres (185 miles) north of the capital, occurred when a wooden passenger barge hit a small boat hauling freight for an agricultural company, police in Kutu told the French news agency Agence France-Presse.

The barge, powered by an outboard motor, was capable of ferrying up to 80 passengers, said a police spokesman, who was not identified by the news agency.

# Muslim leader's plea for Rushdie

LONDON, Nov 24, (UPI): A Muslim leader in Britain said today he planned a Middle East lecture tour to get Iran's death threat against Salman Rushdie lifted.

"A price on his head is below the dignity of the Iranian government — it belongs to gangster movies," said Dr Hesham El Essawy, chairman of the Islamic Society for the Promotion of Religious Tolerance.

He said he intends to speak at universities and to the media in Egypt and the Gulf states in February. If the Iranian government guarantees his safety, he said he would visit there as well.

On Oct 5, 1988, India banned Rushdie's book *The Satanic Verses*, saying it was offensive to Islam.

Muslims began staging demonstrations against the book around the world. On Feb 14, Iran's spiritual leader, the Ayatollah Khomeini, called on Muslims to kill Rushdie. Khomeini died in June.

His threat was backed by an offer of a \$5.2-million bounty by two Iranian clerigymen.

El Essawy, a London dentist, said he would cite the Holy Quran, to back up his argument that the death threat should be lifted.

"The Quran has verses that actually fit the situation exactly: If unbelievers or hypocrites mock or insult the word of God, do not sit with them until they talk about something else," he said.

The Quran's position is very tolerant but Khomeini said, "kill him," El Essawy said. "I am just as incensed by Mr Rushdie's book as anybody else but my reaction has to come within the confines and teachings of the Quran itself. I am hoping that people will come to their senses and the pressure will ease."

He said he hopes he can get Middle Eastern governments to put collective pressure on Iran to cancel the death threat and reward.

Rushdie, 42, is an Indian-born British who was raised as a Muslim when growing up in Bombay. A resident of London, he has been in hiding since Khomeini's Feb 14 death call.

The threat was renewed as recently as Oct 21 by Dr Kalim Siddiqui, director of the Muslim Institute in London, in a speech to a Muslim audience in Manchester in North England.

The London newspaper the Independent today quoted El Essawy as saying he thought the publisher of *The Satanic Verses*, Viking Penguin, should clearly label the book as fiction.

It quoted him as saying: "Only a small minority of fanatics support the death sentence, but there is a large number of young Muslims in Britain who have been led to believe... this is what Islamic law says... the Quranic position is that freedom of speech should be respected..."

Approach ■ Iran, hitting out at "hypocrites and liars," denounced France for barring Muslim girls from wearing headscarves in classrooms.

Iran's spiritual leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei scornfully contrasted the Western approach towards individual freedoms in the headscarves row and its reaction to Iran's call for the death of Rushdie for blaspheming Islam.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Vatican, Hungary ties:** The Hungarian government and the Vatican, estranged for 44 years, have agreed to re-establish diplomatic relations soon, a top Hungarian official said Thursday.

Barna Sarkadi Nagy, head of the government's secretariat for church affairs, made the announcement after three days of talks with Vatican officials that he described as "extraordinarily fruitful."

The Vatican made no immediate comment but officials have previously indicated that an early resumption of diplomatic ties was possible.

Nagy, addressing reporters at the Hungarian embassy, said a Vatican delegation would travel to Budapest in early December or early January to conclude the negotiations. (AP)

**Lithuanian commission:** Lithuania has taken another step towards breaking away from the Soviet Union by setting up a commission to study how to restore its statehood, local journalists said yesterday.

The "Parliamentary Commission to achieve Lithuanian independence" was formed at a meeting of the republic's parliament, on Thursday, the journalists said by telephone from the Lithuanian capital Vilnius.

The move defied Kremlin chief Mikhail Gorbachev who has said secession by republics, although permitted by the Soviet constitution, is politically out of the question. (Reuters)

**US lawyers sue Glomp:** Two US lawyers sued Poland's Roman Catholic primate Cardinal Jozef Glomp for defamation yesterday on behalf of the American rabbi.

Joseph Lipner and Jack Zaremski filed the suit over comments Glomp made about New York rabbi Avi Weiss and six other Jews who scaled the wall of a Carmelite convent at the former Nazi death camp of Auschwitz in July to demand the nuns' removal.

Glomp said in August the men, who were attacked and forced out by Polish workmen, "did not kill the nuns or destroy the convent only because they were stopped."

"We don't want any monetary damages, we just want him to retract his comments," Lipner said after filing the suit in the southern city of Cracow where Glomp made his remarks. (Reuters)

**Singapore rejects pass:** Singapore has refused to give an employment pass to the newly appointed correspondent for AP-Dow Jones, the American news agency said yesterday.

The agency said immigration authorities gave no reasons for rejecting New York-based correspondent Matthew Geiger, 25, named to replace Simon Egan, whose application for a work permit extension was turned down last month.

Geiger, an American, was expected to take up his posting in December, the spokesman said.

There was no immediate comment from the Singapore government on the Geiger case. (Reuters)

**Malaysians sentenced to death:** Three people were sentenced to death by a Malaysian high court in Kuala Lumpur on Thursday for trafficking 9.2 kg of ganja (cannabis). All of them are Malaysians of Chinese origin.

Judicial commissioner Faiza Thamby Chik, however, freed two others, also Malaysians of Chinese origin, including a dance hostess, who were jointly tried with them.

However, their freedom was short-lived as they were re-arrested by police the moment they stepped out of the courtroom (Kuna)

## Italian woman held for ransom

# Kidnappers send 'ear'

PARMA, Italy, Nov 24, (Reuters): Kidnappers holding an Italian woman for ransom have sent her family a piece of ear in what is apparently Italy's first mutilation of a female hostage.

Police in the northern city of Parma said today scientists were examining the severed left lobe to determine by blood group and other tests whether it belonged to the kidnapp victim, Mirella Silocchi.

The piece of flesh was found in a dustbin at a motorway service station yesterday after a telephone call from the kidnappers to a scrap metal company owned by Silocchi's husband, businessman Carlo Nicolini.

Silocchi, 50, was snatched from the family's holiday home near Parma on July 28. Unconfirmed newspaper reports have cited ransom demands of five billion lire (\$3.7 million).

## ANNOUNCEMENT

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Thanksgiving Day parade

Parennial crowd favourite Woody Woodpecker, of children's cartoon fame, floats past One Time Square on November 23 during the 63rd

Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade in New York City. (Reuter wirephoto)

## PEOPLE AND PLACES

LONDON: Yana, a pop music star of the 1950s and early 1960s and one of Britain's best-loved singers, has died at the age of 57.

Her family reported she died on Nov 21 from cancer of the esophagus in London's Middlesex Hospital.

A voluptuous blonde, 5 feet 2 inches (157 cm) tall, Yana began her working life under her real name, Pamela Gawn, as an assistant in a hairdressing salon but soon switched to fashion modelling.

One night at a party at a London nightclub, friends dared her to get up and sing. She was so good that the nightclub owner promptly booked her for a cabaret act and her singing career was launched.

She became a top recording star, taking a number of singles including the torrid "Climb Up The Wall" to the number one spot in the British charts.

In 1956, British Broadcasting Corp. television starred her in "The Yana Show" and she later appeared on the Bob Hope and Ed Sullivan shows on television in the United States.

She appeared in lavish stage shows in London's West End and made her movie debut in 1955, appearing with Jose Ferrer in "Cockleshell Heroes".

Yana was three times married. Her first marriage, at the age of 16 to a childhood sweetheart, ended in divorce. Her second marriage, to actor Alan Curtis, lasted only a week. Her third husband, hotelier Ronnie Ronald, died in 1976. (AP)

ANCHORAGE: Alaskans and Soviets with an urge to bet on the time the ice melts in the Bering sea will be able to buy tickets in a

## The question remains Is it Noah's Ark?

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colorado, Nov 24, (AP) Former astronaut Jim Irwin says members of an expedition assembled by his high flight foundation have located what they believe is Noah's Ark on Mount Ararat in northeastern Turkey.

Irwin, who walked on the moon on the Apollo 12 mission, has led numerous expeditions on the search since 1982. He did not go to Turkey this year, but plans to go in 1990.

The discovery this fall followed Turkey's warmest summer in 50 years, which melted most of an ice pack covering a large rectangular shape 14,500 feet (4,419 metres) up the mountain's western slope.

Bill Dodder, a member of two expeditions in September and one in October, took films and photos of the brown, layered, box-shaped object. Team members in October wanted to take core samples of the object, and had obtained permission from the Turkish government, Dodder said. But high insurance costs for a helicopter to do the work stymied the effort.

The story off the Ark is from the Bible's Old Testament, which says that Noah built the 450-foot (137-metre) long ark to save himself, his family and two of every kind of animal on Earth from a world-wide flood. According to geologists, the ark came to rest "on the mountains of Ararat," an area that today covers parts of Turkey, Iran and the Soviet Union.

"The question remains: Is this Noah's Ark? We need to get some qualified people over to look at it," Irwin said.

government-sanctioned lottery, the private firm running the lottery said.

Lottery Alaska said the one dollar tickets, to go on sale in March, will list dates and times when the ice will thaw in the 2-1/2 miles (3.4 km) between Alaska's little Diomedes island and the Soviet Union's big Diomedes island.

Lottery Alaska president Bob Thomas said the melt time will be determined by setting up a tripod between the two islands and seeing when it falls through the ice. (Reuter)

PARIS: The remains of exiled French artist Louis David, known as "the painter of the revolution," are to be returned to France from Belgium and buried at the Pere-Lachaise cemetery, minister of culture Jack Lang said yesterday.

"This will serve as a symbol of friendship between Belgium and France and homage to a man whose life and work are part of history," Lang said in a statement. A group of educators, historians and artists had asked that David's remains be returned as part of the bicentennial celebration of the French Revolution. (UPI)

LONDON: A 150-year-old manuscript of Robert Schumann's only finished piano concerto sold at auction for a record \$880,000 (\$1.38 million).

Oxford book dealer Albi Rosenzweig, who saw off two rival bidders, said the signed manuscript would go to a library in West Germany where music scholars would have access to it.

"It was worth it," said Rosenzweig who said he was prepared to pay 30 per cent more for it. "It's one of the most famous piano concertos. It's been played from Alaska to Zanzibar." (UPI)

NEW YORK: Colombian artist Fernando Botero's "Familia Protestante" fetched a record price for a Latin American art work as part of a sale that Christie's auction house said yielded a record \$9.5 million.

Christie's said the two-day sale of Latin American art exceeded all expectations.

Botero's "Familia Protestante" was sold for \$715,000 to US entertainer Andy Williams.

Mexican artist Juan O'Gorman's "Los Mitos Paganos," a copy of the central panel of a triptych that the artist painted for the first airport in Mexico City in 1937, sold for \$550,000 a new record for the artist.

LONDON: Britain's only forensic entomologist, who has helped solve murders by estimating the age of a corpse from the type and age of maggots and insects in it, said yesterday he was losing his government grant.

Dr Zakaria Erzincliglu, 38, of Cambridge University, told Reuters that the research council which allocates funds would not renew his six-year contract.

In the past 10 years, he has assisted police in 50 to 60 murder investigations, helping to solve some of them.

Erzincliglu, a British citizen of Turkish origin, said the government told him it had no funds available. (Reuter)

ALBANY, New York: An eighth child died as a result of the tornado that smashed a wall of glass and masonry into the cafeteria of East Colmanham elementary school during lunch.

Nine-year-old Jennifer Holman died at the Albany Medical Centre hospital, said hospital spokesman Elmer Streeter.

He described the cause of death as "brain death secondary to multiple trauma."

## America gives Thanks in variety

WASHINGTON, Nov 24, (UPI) Americans gobbled Thanksgiving dinners with all the trimmings yesterday and the shuttle astronauts settled for "thermostabilized" turkey in space, while New Yorkers braved blustery cold for a traditional but icy Macy's parade and warm hearts across the nation took pity on the less fortunate.

As much as nine inches (23 cm) of wet snow hit the northeast, complicating the holiday travel crunch and frosting the oversized balloons carried down Broadway in New York City's annual Macy's Thanksgiving parade.

The white stuff soaked Plymouth, Massachusetts, as visitors toured the town where pilgrims and Indians celebrated the first Thanksgiving.

It was chilly in New Orleans, but there was warmth, too. A private security guard said he saw a shivering vagrant break into a vacant storefront window but did not have the heart to detain him for police on Thanksgiving morning.

Kindness to the poor was doled out in kitchens across America.

Despite financial troubles, barbecue restaurant "Daddy" Bruce Randolph, 89, cooked his annual feast for Denver's less fortunate.

Tables stretched from one end of Daddy Bruce Randolph Ave. to the other outside his eatery. The menu featured the traditional turkey, green beans, potatoes and rolls, along with Randolph's unique contribution — barbecued ribs.

"It's just a gift. I just like to help people," Randolph said. "God gives us all something to do in life, and this is what he gave me."

There had been some concern that Randolph might not be able to pull off the annual feast, a 25-year tradition, after his restaurant was closed by the state a few weeks ago for delinquent taxes. But the community stepped forward to raise the \$4,000 needed to pay the tax bill and reopen the restaurant.

In San Francisco, the Rev. Cecil Williams of Glide Memorial Church and volunteers dished up 1,500 breakfasts, then while some workers cleaned up others began roasting hundreds of donated turkeys and hams.

Americans enjoyed the holiday overseas, too.

More than 40,000 US servicemen stationed in South Korea celebrated with turkey dinners and parties at barracks, recreation centres and at homes. Singer John Denver entertained GIs in a show at Warrior Base, 35 miles (56 km) north of Seoul.

## 'I will sing to the last'

LONDON, Nov 24, (Reuter): A British railway guard who likes to serenade early-morning commuters through his train's loud-speaker system has been told the music must stop.

Managers drew the line after passengers in Kent, southeast England, complained that 64-year-old Les Basset's crooning of wartime favourites like "We'll Meet Again" was distracting and intrusive.

"A lot of them like a snooze in the morning, and they can't do that with the guard singing on the public address system," a British Rail spokesman said.

# Diesel fumes link to cancer

## Carbon monoxide risk

LONDON, Nov 24, (Kuna): British scientists have discovered a link between diesel fumes and cancer, it was revealed yesterday.

More than 100,000 diesel cars and thousands of commercial vehicles are sold in Britain each year. The Times newspaper quoted Professor Paul Grasso of the Institute of Industrial and Environmental Health and Safety at Surrey University, near London, as saying that laboratory tests showed that rats which inhaled diesel fumes developed lung tumours.

Immediate backing for the research came from the environmental group, Friends of The Earth. They said that soot particles from diesel had been implicated also in studies in the United States and West Germany.

Very low levels of carbon monoxide, such as those found in a roomful of cigarette smokers, can trigger potentially hazardous oxygen shortage in people with heart disease, a study shows.

"These are definitely adverse health effects," said Dr Thomas Dahms of St Louis University School of Medicine.

The study published in yesterday's New England Journal of Medicine, found a decrease in the amount of work that people with coronary artery disease could perform when their carboxy-haemoglobin levels — the combination of carbon monoxide and haemoglobin — reached two per cent.

Haemoglobin ordinarily combines with oxygen and carries it throughout the body. However, carbon monoxide binds with haemoglobin even more tightly than oxygen does. So when people breathe carbon monoxide, it cuts down the amount of oxygen in their blood, and high doses are fatal.

The health consequences of very low levels, however, have been less clear. In general, standards set by the US Environmental Protection Agency allow enough carbon monoxide in the air to take up two per cent of the blood's haemoglobin.

"What we have shown with this paper is that it's beyond any doubt that there is a documented effect at two per cent, which frankly was a surprise to us," said Dahms. "It's such a small amount that one would not think you could see that kind of change."

## Filtered coffee okay for heart

BOSTON, Nov 24, (AP): People who use filter coffee makers can sip their morning brew without fear of raising their cholesterol levels, but those who use percolators or pour boiling water onto the grounds might not be so safe, a study suggests.

The report, published in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine, is the second in a week to revive the long-running controversy over coffee's effects on the heart.

This research found a strong link between rising cholesterol levels and boiled coffee, a brewing method popular in Scandinavia. People who used this method for nine weeks had a 10 percent rise in their cholesterol levels, which translates into a 20 per cent increase in their risk of heart disease.

But when they stayed with filtered coffee, by far the most popular brewing method in the United States, their cholesterol levels remained steady.

"The bottom line of the study is that it seems the way you make your coffee makes a large difference," said Dr Diederick Grobbee of Erasmus University Medical School in the Netherlands.

Despite the latest research, however, the coffee-cholesterol issue remains as muddy as a cup of day-old Java.

Grobbee said he cannot reconcile his findings with last week's coffee news. In a report presented at the annual meeting of the American Heart Association, researchers from Stanford University said decaffeinated coffee can be blamed for cholesterol increases.

Grobbee and Dr Annette A.A. Bak compared filtered coffee with boiled coffee, which is made by pouring boiling water into a pot of ground coffee and letting it sit for 10 minutes. The technique is similar to percolating coffee.

Grobbee said the latest findings raise concerns that percolators might also have a bad effect on cholesterol.

## Rare Mauritius stamps

An envelope bearing two rare misprinted stamps was withdrawn after bidding failed to reach the base price of 3 million Swiss francs (\$1.9 million), auctioneers at Christie's said.

Spokeswoman Katharina Feller said Christie's will negotiate a private sale with an international group for the Mauritius "post office" cover. The group planned arrange financing to meet the asking price.

Feller said bidding stopped at 2.6 million francs (\$1.6 million). The auctioneers had predicted the stamps would fetch up to 4 million francs (\$2.5 million), setting a new world record for any philatelic item.

Feller declined to reveal the identity of the seller, an independent financial concern, or the prospective buyers.

## Fossil fuel limits

LONDON, Nov 24, (Reuter): A new study on global warming funded by the Dutch government has recommended that targets for carbon dioxide emissions be established, setting time limits for the elimination of fossil fuels for each country.

The authors of the study, called "energy policy in the greenhouse," said the plan presented a politically feasible solution to the problem of the earth's slowly rising temperature.

The targets would take into account the differing needs of industrialised and developing nations and be based on 1986 carbon release rates per head of population, they told a news conference.

"Under this scheme, by the middle of the next century there would be a phase-out of carbon emissions world-wide," said Wilfried Bach, director of the Centre for Applied Climatology at West Germany's University of Munster and member of a Bundestag commission on climate change.

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## INTERNATIONAL

## Re-evaluation of evolution

## Breathing through ears

LONDON, Nov 24, (Reuters): Fossils recently discovered in east Greenland indicate the earliest-known land vertebrates may have breathed through their ears, scientists reported yesterday.

The discovery contradicts the accepted view that the first land animals with backbones had an ear-drum, a feature that all modern amphibians, birds, reptiles and mammals were thought to have inherited directly.

"The evolution of the middle ear is central to the discussion of how the first tetrapods (four-footed animals) adapted to life on land," said Jennifer Clack of Cambridge University.

The new findings were based on a large group of fossils found by a 1987 English-Danish expedition to east Greenland.

Clack, in an article in the journal *Nature*, said the fossils included the largest samples ever found of *Acanthostega*, a 360-million-year-old creature

about the size and shape of a modern newt that is one of the earliest known land vertebrates.

Other backboned animals from the same period had an eardrum connected to the inner ear by a thin rod which scientists thought conducted sound. They also believed the eardrums were housed in notches on each side of the skull.

Clack said *Acanthostega* had the same notches but its rods, which were thick and plate-like, were unsuitable for conducting sound, suggesting that the notches did not house eardrums but instead supported small openings through which the animal breathed.

The rods could have been used as pump handles powering the breathing movements, an arrangement still found today in some primitive fish.

Clack said the discovery of both the thick rods and the small notches forced a re-evaluation of this area of evolution.

## Cristiani rejects rebels' conditions

## Series of blasts rock San Salvador

SAN SALVADOR, Nov 24, (AP): President Alfredo Cristiani contends the nearly two-week offensive by leftist rebels was a failure, and he has rejected their conditions for peace. But his comments were punctuated by rebel bombs exploding near his news conference.

No injuries or damage was reported by the series of bombs that exploded about five blocks away from Cristiani's last evening news conference. Cristiani, jumped, but kept talking, telling everyone "not to worry."

Cristiani described as "nonsense" the guerrillas' call for substantive Marti National Liberation Front that I said to the ministers of the Cristiani government: we need to look for sincere solutions," Perez said.

Traffic moved normally in San Salvador for the first time since Nov 11, when the rebel offensive that has killed more than 1,000 people was launched in the capital and several provinces. Many of the capital's 1 million residents tried to stock up on food, gas and other necessities.

Cristiani said the rebel Farabundo Marti National Liberation front had used the negotiating process as a propaganda tool while it prepared the largest offensive of the rebels' war against the US-backed government.

The guerrillas tried to steal Cristiani's show by setting off at least five small bombs in a ravine about five blocks away. His news conference was interrupted shortly after he claimed the army controlled the city, but he said "anybody with a small group of people" could "launch terrorism."

Cristiani was surprised by the explosions, but maintained his composure. The news conference was interrupted for one minute and 34 seconds, but then resumed even as government helicopters roared overhead, dropping bombs and rocketing the slopes of a volcano where rebels were believed to be hiding.

Explosions continued to be heard just north of the city into the late evening.

The news conference was held in an open-air pavilion at military headquarters, which has been attacked numerous times during the war that has cost an estimated 71,000 lives.

There was little fighting elsewhere as the country experienced a second day of relative calm.

"They tried it and lost," Cristiani said of the rebel offensive. He said the guerrilla group must "come to its senses and stop its aggression against the people. Then we can sit down to look at the few things we can do to facilitate their incorporation into the democratic process."

Cristiani also disputed rebel claims that guerrillas control territory in seven of the country's 14 provinces and parts of San Salvador.

Guerrillas said yesterday they attacked an army barracks and other government positions in the east of the country, causing serious damage and a high but unspecified number of casualties.

The FMLN said in a broadcast by its radio *Venceremos* that guerrillas attacked the headquarters of the third Infantry Brigade in the city of San Miguel at dawn.

Similar attacks were launched against government positions at Condem, Santa Maria and El Jacatal, also in San Miguel department.

Legislators yesterday approved the framework of a tough new package of anti-terrorist laws designed to give government sweeping powers to crack down on leftists.

political negotiations leading to a ceasefire. The rightist government is demanding a truce first, then peace talks.

"Without a ceasefire the guerrillas will use the peace process for propaganda," said Cristiani.

Rebel leaders travelled to Caracas, Venezuela, yesterday to meet with President Carlos Andres Perez who is trying to mediate a solution to El Salvador's 10-year-old civil war. Perez had met on Wednesday with Salvadoran government officials.

"I will say the same things to the representatives of the Farabundo



Members of the US military who were trapped inside the Sheraton Hotel run past the pool shortly before being evacuated. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Salvador protesters held

LOS ANGELES, Nov 24, (UPI): Activist-actor Martin Sheen and several clergymen were among 66 people arrested during a demonstration at the downtown federal building protesting US involvement in El Salvador.

About 30 protesters gathered at 8 am, many hooking arms as they sat in front of the building's westside doors. Others placed chains and padlocks on door handles to try to keep employers from

entering the building.

After processing, the arrested protesters were cited for trespassing on federal property and released on \$25 bail, said Mary Filippini, a spokeswoman for the federal police.

Many clergymen, including Catholic Archbishop Roger Mahony, attended the demonstration to protest the recent killing of six Jesuit priests and two women in El Salvador.

## 2 killed in raids on cartel

BOGOTA, Nov 24, (AP): Police have raided a stronghold of reputed drug traffickers near Medellin, killing two people, arresting 55 and confiscating weapons, the government announced.

A statement issued yesterday by the Colombian President's press office did not identify the two people killed in the police raid or say how they died. But the statement said the operation was aimed at capturing the reputed leaders of the Medellin cocaine-trafficking cartel.

The statement said an elite police force used military planes and helicopters to stage the raid on the traffickers' stronghold near the town of Cocora, located outside of Medellin and 180 kilometres (110 miles) north of Bogota.

Gen. Miguel Gomez Padilla, commander of the national police, said yesterday that government authorities had hoped to catch reputed cartel leaders Pablo Escobar Gaviria, Fabio Ochoa Vasquez or Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha.

But the statement gave no indication that any of the reputed cartel leaders were among the 55 people detained after the raids, and no other details could be obtained late last night.

Among the weapons captured by police were five AR-15 rifles, two Uzi submachine guns, five revolvers, two grenades, 36 portable radios, 10 motor vehicles and two boats.

The son of reputed cocaine cartel kingpin Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha has been freed after three months in detention, judicial authorities said.

## Noriega grabs major civil post

## Foes seek global help

PANAMA CITY, Nov 24, (AP): The government-appointed People's Power Assembly has elected Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega to his first major civilian post, as national co-ordinator of the law-making body.

Noriega heads the country's military and as such is the de facto ruler. The new position allows him to officially call special sessions and assume functions assigned to him by the 510-member assembly.

The assembly also declared a state of general alert and asked Provisional President Francisco Rodriguez to declare to a state of national urgency because of the

political crisis. The People's Power Assembly was designated to replace the National Assembly after Noriega had Rodriguez installed as president on Sept 1, when the previous civilian government's term expired.

May elections were annulled when it became apparent Noriega opponents were winning.

The General State Council, which includes the cabinet and top military officers, gave the assembly authorization on Nov 9 to elect a national co-ordinator who was not a member.

Noriega was chosen because it "is fundamental to make political decisions that guarantee the permanence of the republic and the national sovereignty," the assembly resolution said.

Assembly member Ramon Ashby said in proposing Noriega that he should be a spokesman and defender of the assembly.

The Panama City council late Tuesday unanimously agreed to ask the Central State Council to make Noriega chief of government.

Opposition leaders appealed for international support yesterday, saying the government is issuing threats against them following reports of a \$3 million CIA effort to overthrow Noriega.

"We are calling urgently to the (Catholic) church and religious communities of our country to emphasize their moral authority... in favour of liberty, justice and peace," opposition leaders said in a statement.



Noriega: defiant

## All-party oldies leading Greece

ATHENS, Nov 24, (AP): A 27-member government representing Greece's three major parties and led by former Central Bank governor Kostas Zolotas was sworn in yesterday temporarily resolving a growing political crisis.

The all-party administration will govern the country until new elections are held in April. Party leaders had announced that the decision to set aside their differences was made to circumvent immediate elections and confront the collapsing economy after the Nov 5 polls ended inconclusively. It was the second election this year that ended without any one party winning enough votes to govern alone.

**Debate**  
Following the swearing-in ceremonies at the presidential palace Zolotas said he plans to submit his government's programme to the unicameral Parliament for debate next Wednesday.

He told members of his cabinet at their first meeting that the public sector deficit would be reduced by cuts in government spending and attempts made to attract foreign investment.

Zolotas ruled out a devaluation of the nation's currency, the drachma, but said it would be permitted to slide against other currencies.

The drachma, which had a parity of 30 to the US dollar in 1973 reached 170 this year after several devaluations and depreciation.

**Portfolios**  
Agreement on the cabinet's composition were allocated in proportion to the votes won by each of the three major parties. Leaders of the three main parties will not hold posts in the government.

The conservative New Democracy which won 46.2 per cent of the vote was given nine ministerial posts. The Panhellenic Socialist Movement or Pasok with 40.6 per cent of the ballots was awarded seven portfolios. Three posts were given to the communist-dominated coalition of the Left and Progress which received 10.8 per cent of the vote.

Seven cabinet positions were retained by members of the caretaker government that conducted the last general elections. None of the three independents or women were given cabinet slots.

**Protest**  
Radio morning talk shows in the capital received scores of phone calls from female listeners protesting the absence of women in the cabinet even though 20 were elected to parliament.

The decision to turn to the 85-year-old Zolotas to head the interim government was apparently made because of his almost 20 years at the helm of the Bank of Greece and the deteriorating Greek economy.

Party leaders Constantine Mitsotakis of New Democracy, Andreas Papandreu of Pasok and Harilaos Trikoupi who chose the octogenarian to lead the nation, are all in their 70s.

The political situation resulted in new jokes circulating in Athens especially poking fun at Zolotas and the party leaders because of their advanced ages.

"Do you know why our party leaders chose an 85-year-old banker?" asks a coffee shop owner. "They wanted to feel young," he replies.

The temporary end to political uncertainty was greeted by industrialists seeking official direction with a sigh of relief.

The Athens stock exchange general index on Tuesday closed 5.87 per cent higher reflecting renewed confidence by investors after it had closed lower for five consecutive sessions.

## Soviets force for peace: poll

WASHINGTON, Nov 24, (AP): More US citizens now believe the Soviet Union is a force for peace than a threat to peace, and most believe the cold war is ending, according to a new poll.

Forty-six per cent of the 1,007 people surveyed in the Washington Post-ABC news poll said they felt the Soviet Union is more a force for peace than it is a threat, while 38 per cent felt the opposite was true.

When the same question was asked in 1983, 90 per cent said the Soviet Union was more of a threat to peace.

Fifty-eight per cent of respondents in the latest survey, published in yesterday's editions of the newspaper, thought the cold war is coming to an end — 64 per cent of the men and 52 per cent of the women.

## Space station by 21st century

WASHINGTON, Nov 24, (AP): If all goes according to plan, a space shuttle will leave its Florida launch pad in March 1995 carrying the first pieces of America's space station into orbit.

Ten flights and 28 months later, by the same timetable, the parts flown up piece by piece will have been assembled into a place where men and women can live and work for months at a time, looking down at the earth as they silently drift across the sky 250 miles (400 kms) high.

By August 1999, seven years late but just in time for the 21st century, the space station will be finished, serving as a research laboratory for medicine, astronomy, space physics, and as a staging area for manned flights to the moon and beyond.

**Freedom**  
Space station Freedom, as it is named, began as an \$8 billion, 10-year project when then president Ronald Reagan announced it in 1984. It has grown into a 15-year marathon likely to cost \$19 billion or well over \$30 billion, depending on whose figures you use.

US Space Agency Administrator Richard Truly, a former astronaut, considers the space station "the cornerstone to our future in space," but admits the programme has had a sputtering past.

"In the last five years, space station Freedom has undergone 11 major reviews, has faced nearly continual readjustments of its budget, has had a great deal of management turnover and has experienced several configuration and schedule changes," he said.

In May and June of this year, three top space station executives left the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. "The thing that's really tough is the funding instability in the programme," said NASA associate administrator William Lenoir, also a former astronaut.

**Danger**  
"In June of every year we don't know what the hell we are going to get in October," he said, referring to the US government's budget calendar. "This year, beginning in June, we slowed the progress of the space station down because if we had continued to build on schedule there was a real danger that we'd get to October and be firing contractors and laying off civil service employees."

On each end of the truss would be two huge photovoltaic arrays, looking like giant windmill paddles, to gather power from the Sun. The smaller structure would radiate heat out of the modules. Another structure will be a telerobotic servicer, a sophisticated crane capable of performing precise manipulations in space.

The habitation module, divided into a quiet zone, a buffer zone and an active zone, is where the crew meets, eats, sleeps, exercises, has recreation and receives medical attention.

The working quarters of the space station will be five times the size of its Soviet counterpart, Mir. It will produce 10 times as much electrical power as Skylab, allowing experiments never before possible.



Shuttle Discovery lifts off amid clouds of smoke Nov 22. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Shuttle launches US spy satellite

## Discovery mission satisfactory

SPACE CENTRE, Houston, Nov 24, (AP): Astronauts aboard the space shuttle *Discovery* set their sights on a Sunday landing for a secret military mission that sources said included deployment of a spy satellite.

Silence has surrounded most of the classified flight, but the US space agency did interrupt the quiet briefly yesterday to announce that the shuttle was scheduled to land at 7:02 pm Sunday (0303 GMT Monday) at Edwards Air Force base, California.

"The crew is doing well and the orbiter continues to perform satisfactorily," mission control commentator Billie Deason said in the brief status report last evening.

According to sources close to the project, a 2.5-tonne, \$300 million satellite was released from the shuttle's cargo bay last

morning about 10 hours into the flight.

The satellite is capable of monitoring Soviet missile tests and eavesdropping on military and diplomatic communications in the Soviet Union and other countries, said the sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The satellite was to be manoeuvred into a stationary orbit 22,300 miles (35,800 kms) above the equator, on a line of sight to the Soviet Union, China, the Middle East, Africa and all of Europe.

The sources were unable to provide information on how the satellite was operating. A similar satellite was launched by a shuttle crew in 1985.

The satellites were expected to tend experiments for the so-called "Star Wars" missile defence system and other military projects.

## Aids threat in Belgium

## One infects 11 women

BOSTON, Nov 24, (AP): Eleven women, most of them well-educated and middle-class, caught the Aids virus from the same man, demonstrating the potential hazards of sexual relations even for those at seemingly low risk, researchers report.

Doctors said the cluster of infection, spotted in Belgium, is the largest to be documented among heterosexuals since the epidemic emerged almost a decade ago. But it is probably not unique.

"In my view, it is only the tip of the iceberg," said Dr Nathan Clumeck, of St Pierre University Hospital in Brussels. "It's probably something that will be more frequently described in the future among heterosexuals without apparent risk factors."

Doctors who traced the spread said it should serve as a warning to women who believe they can avoid the Aids virus by limiting themselves to a few sexual partners.

"Emphasising only sexual relations with multiple partners as a risk factor for women may be irrelevant and even counter-productive since it implies that the absence of multiple partners makes women 'safe'," the doctors wrote.

They said that middle-class women who think they are low risk because they don't have sex with drug addicts or bisexuals or engage in other high-risk practices may have a false sense of security.

## Red Square pilot Rust back in jail after stabbing of nurse

BONN, Nov 24, (UPI): Matthias Rust, the West German youth who spent a year in a Soviet prison after landing an airplane in Moscow's Red Square, was back in police custody today after allegedly stabbing a student nurse who resisted his sexual advances.

Police said Rust, 21, was being held pending formal proceedings in connection with the attack yesterday on the 18-year-old nurse trainee at a Hamburg Hospital where they both worked.

West German news reports said Rust accosted the nurse in a dressing room and tried to kiss her. When she resisted, a fight broke out, and Rust pulled out a switchblade knife and stabbed her twice in the stomach.

The nurse was later hospitalised but her wounds were not believed to be life-threatening, police said.

After the stabbing, Rust hid the bloody knife in his coat, ran out of the hospital and drove away in his Mercedes-Benz. A short

while later he telephoned police from a tavern in Hamburg.

"You can pick me up," he was quoted as saying.

Police found Rust sitting in the tavern wearing a floppy black hat. The switchblade was found in a nearby riding stable.

"It is possible he was planning to kill himself. But he didn't have the guts to do it," the newspaper *Bild* quoted a police officer as saying.

Police said Rust had been assigned to

the hospital after opting for civilian work in lieu of military service.

On May 28, 1987, the 19-year-old Rust flew his single-engine plane 450 miles (724 km) from Helsinki to Moscow, penetrating Soviet defenses and landing in Red Square, where he was arrested.

The flight captured world headlines and precipitated the firing by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev of several top Soviet defence officials.



File photo of Rust (centre).



# Obesity protects against breast cancer: new study

BOSTON, Nov 24, (UPI): Contrary to the widespread belief, obesity does not seem to increase a woman's risk for breast cancer and actually appears to protect younger women from the disease, Harvard researchers reported yesterday.

A new study involving 115,534 nurses across the United States — the lar-

gest of its kind — found obese postmenopausal women were not at increased risk for breast cancer and obese premenopausal women actually were at lower risk for the disease.

"Most people still believe that obesity is a risk factor for breast cancer," said Dr. Walter Willett, a professor at the Harvard School of Public Health

who led the new study. "That's not what we found."

Willett stressed, however, that the findings should not encourage women to gain weight to reduce their breast cancer risk. Obesity increases the risk for other serious health problems, such as heart disease and diabetes, he said.

The findings could provide researchers for more clues to the underlying causes of the disease, he said.

About 140,000 new cases of breast cancer are reported each year in the United States and about 43,000 American women die from the disease each year, making it second only to lung cancer as the leading cause of cancer death among women. About one in

every 10 women will develop breast cancer in her lifetime.

The study is part of the nurses' health study, an ongoing nationwide study being conducted at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston to examine a variety of health problems among women.

The latest report, published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, involved 115,534 women who were aged 30 to 55 and cancer-free in 1976 and who were followed until 1984 to see who developed breast cancer.

Among the premenopausal women, the risk for breast cancer appeared to decrease as weight increased.

## Vitamins help stop spinal defects

CHICAGO, Nov 24, (AP): Mothers who take multiple vitamins containing folic acid early in pregnancy are significantly less likely to bear babies with spina bifida and other spinal column defects, a new study concludes.

The birth defects were about one-fourth as common among babies whose mothers took the over-the-counter vitamins than among babies whose mothers didn't take vitamins, according to a report in today's Journal of the American Medical Association.

The apparent beneficial effect was limited to women who took the vitamins in the first six weeks of pregnancy, leading the researchers to suggest women begin taking vitamins with folic acid when they first start trying to conceive.

The defects include spina bifida, in which incomplete closing of the bony casing around the spinal cord typically results in mild or severe paralysis. Another spinal column defect is anencephaly, in which major parts of the brain are lacking and death usually occurs within hours.

Such defects occur in about 4,000 babies a year, or one to two in 1,000.

The Boston University report was based on a three-year study of 22,776 women, about half of whom took multivitamins containing folic acid.

The occurrence of spinal column defects was 0.9 per 1,000, among babies whose mothers took the vitamins, compared to 3.3 per 1,000 among infants born to women who didn't use supplements.

The study was conducted by Dr. Aubrey Mulmisky of the Centre for Human Genetics at the Boston University School of Medicine and colleagues.

"We believe that the combined data from this and other studies provide good evidence that folic acid-containing multivitamins taken during the first six weeks of pregnancy will prevent" spinal column defects, the authors wrote.

The study doesn't prove folic acid prevents birth defects, said one expert, Dr. Lewis Holmes, a professor of paediatrics at Harvard Medical School.

"Is it the vitamin itself... or are these women doing other things?" Holmes asked.

Discussing the implications, Mulmisky noted most pregnant women see their doctors for the first time 8 to 10 weeks after conception.

"Almost all the fatal organs have been formed at that time," he said. "An opportunity for useful intervention would have been lost."

## Call to end cold war

WASHINGTON, Nov 24, (AP): President George Bush, previewing the superpower summit in a holiday speech, urged the Soviet president to help "bring down the last barriers to a new world of freedom" and end the cold war.

In a televised speech to the nation, Bush on Wednesday night offered a "new partnership" with the Soviets. At the same time he cautioned that "a time of historic change is not time for recklessness" and promised to act with prudence when meeting President Mikhail Gorbachev in the Mediterranean next week.

Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady I. Gerasimov during a news briefing in Moscow yesterday praised Bush's comments.

"We welcome the appeal of the president to use this meeting in order to break out of the boundaries of the (US) policy of containment," Gerasimov said. "We are concluding the period of development after World War II and coming to broad and open co-operation."

Bush delivered the address on the eve of the American holiday Thanksgiving from the presidential retreat at Camp David, outside Washington, where he and his wife Barbara are spending the holiday with family members and friends.

Offering a look at his agenda for Dec. 2-3 meeting off the coast of Malta, Bush said he and Gorbachev will "begin the work of years."

He said he would seek Gorbachev's assurance that the process of reform will continue in Eastern Europe. "And we will give him our assurance that America welcomes reform not as an adversary seeking advantage, but as a people offering support."

"The peace we are building must be different than the hard, joyless peace between two armed camps we've known so long," Bush said. "The historic task before us now is to begin the healing of this old wound."

He called Gorbachev "the dynamic architect of Soviet reform." He said he would tell the Soviet leader "that America wants the people of the Soviet Union to fulfill their destiny. And I will assure him that there is no greater advocate of perestroika than the president of the United States." Perestroika is Gorbachev's policy of restructuring for his country's ailing economy.

House of Representatives speaker Thomas S. Foley said in a television interview after the speech that Bush's speech was a "fine and eloquent address, one that every American can wholeheartedly agree with."

Today, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher will visit Bush at Camp David. The president told reporters earlier Wednesday he will consult with her on the upcoming US-Soviet summit.

"On other Thanksgivings, the world was haunted by the images of watchtowers, guard dogs and machine-guns," Bush said in his speech. "But now the world has a new image — reflecting a new reality — that of Germans, East and West, pulling each other to the top of the wall, a human bridge between nations."

"This is not the end of the book of history, but it is a joyful end of one of history's saddest chapters."

Looking ahead to the summit, he said, "I am reaching out to President Gorbachev, asking him to work with me to bring down the last barriers to a new world of freedom."



Father's liver for son

One-year-old Yuya Sugimoto breathes on his own after an artificial respirator was removed. The boy was transplanted with a part of his father's liver a week ago. It was the first liver transplant in Japan involving a living donor. A tube inserted in his nose is a catheter for stomach. (Reuters wirephoto)

## 'President for life' Thatcher

'Sir nobody' mounts challenge

LONDON, Nov 24, (Agencies): The first challenge to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's 14-year leadership of the Conservative party accused her today of wanting to be Britain's "president for life."

Sir Anthony Meyer was speaking after Thatcher told the Times newspaper in an interview that "by popular acclaim" she may fight two more elections, which may be as late as 1997. But that time she would be 72.

"What she is in effect saying is that she is offering herself as president for life," Meyer told a BBC television interviewer.

The challenge by Meyer, an urbane, white-haired ex-diplomat, is the first in Thatcher's 14 years as Conservative leader.

It reflects mounting unease among some Conservatives over her autocratic leadership style and falling popularity ratings. Her government faces mounting economic problems and trails its main opponent, the Labour Party, by 10 points in most opinion polls.

The resignation of chancellor of the exchequer Nigel Lawson last month plunged Thatcher into her worst political crisis since taking office in 1979.

Meyer, a maverick and until now obscure parliamentarian dubbed "sir nobody" by the pro-Thatcher Daily Express newspaper, stands no chance of winning more votes than the "Iron Lady" in a leadership ballot due to be held early next month.

But a sufficient number of abstentions or votes against Thatcher could undermine her position and force a second round of balloting in which Conservative heavyweights could mount a real challenge.

"The moment a more senior figure appears, I will fade into the oblivion from which I should never have emerged," Meyer said.

Thatcher said earlier this month that she would step down as party leader after fighting a fourth election, due by mid-1992. But she reversed that position in her interview with the Times.

The Foreign Office said yesterday it is taking very seriously a newspaper's claim to have discovered security breaches in Downing Street, London home of Thatcher and other government members.

Thatcher, in the United States today for talks with President Bush, praised Bush's Thanksgiving eve call for the end of the cold war, but warned that both NATO and the Warsaw Pact must stand in place.

Thatcher arrived yesterday in Washington and started a four-hour meeting with Bush today at the Camp David presidential retreat in nearby Maryland.



McCartney hits the road

Paul McCartney sings one of his old hits, 'Jets', during the Nov 23 concert at the Forum. This is the inaugural concert of his brief five-city North American tour. It is also the ex-Beatle's first US tour in 13 years. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Bid for base may fail

Turkish curbs on US

ANKARA, Nov 24, (Reuters) Turkish curbs on American forces following a proposed pro-Armenian resolution in the US Senate could affect Turkey's bid for a NATO fighter training base, Western military sources said yesterday.

They said NATO was likely to decide in 1990 whether to site the base in the Turkish city of Konya near the Anatolian mountains or near Gose Bay, Labrador.

"Konya would be good but there is a question mark because of Turkey's retaliation against US forces," one source said.

Last month, Turkey halted American use of Konya facilities, barred US warships from ports and restricted modernisation at US bases in Turkey in protest at the Armenian resolution.

The bill proposed by Senate Republican leader Robert Dole calls on Congress to designate April 24, 1990, as a "national day of remembrance of the 75th anniversary of the Armenian genocide of 1915-1923."

Successive Turkish governments have denied claims that up to 1.5 million Armenians were victims of genocide in eastern Turkey during and after World War I.

## 'Third World mustn't lose'

GENEVA, Nov 24, (AP): Western financial help to encourage reforms in East Europe must not be granted at the expense of development aid to the Third World, former West German chancellor Willy Brandt said yesterday.

In his opening speech at a Socialist International meeting, Brandt described the changes sweeping the Soviet Bloc as the "growing together of Europe," and called for an all-European environmental agency as part of this process.

The Socialist International Council, which began its two-day meeting yesterday, also heard a call for a change in US policy towards El Salvador.

"The US government must be requested to take on a more constructive attitude to a political and not a military solution," said Hector Ogueli of El Salvador's opposition party, the National Revolutionary Movement.

Ogueli called on the right-wing Salvadoran government to begin new peace negotiations with the leftist rebel movement to put an end to the fighting that in 12 days has left at least 1,000 people dead in the largest guerrilla offensive of the 10-year-old civil war.

Delegates at the conference observed a minute's silence in respect for the victims of the Salvador conflict and for Lebanese President Rene Mouawad and 23 other people killed Wednesday in a bomb attack.

Brandt, the president of Socialist International, told the two-day conference that he welcomed the European Economic Community's "awareness" of the need for more productive economic co-operation between East and West, but, expressing "one serious reservation," warned that western financial assistance to boost the flagging economies of reforming East Bloc countries might mean a diversion of funds away from the Third World.

He also said there was an urgent need for a European agency charged with protection of the environment. He suggested that it be set up in the early 1990s.

Brandt said democratic changes in Eastern Europe hinged on Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev staying in power.

"He faces great difficulties and doesn't hide it," Brandt said.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

**Spanish police seize heroin:** Spanish police said on Thursday they seized 82 kg (180 pounds) of heroin on the Costa Del Sol, in the country's second largest haul of the drug.

The provincial governor of the southern province of Malaga, Francisco Rodriguez, said the drug had been smuggled by truck, hidden among goods imported from Turkey.

He said the heroin was worth \$12 million as found, but its street value could have been multiplied by 10 if it had been adulterated for resale.

Four Turks, four Spaniards and a Moroccan were detained in raids on houses in Malaga and the seaside resort of Marbella.

Malaga police last month smashed a Turkish drug ring and seized 109 kg (240 pounds) of heroin, the largest single haul of the drug in Spain. Rodriguez said the two rings did not appear to have been connected.

**Dutch police seize hashish:** Dutch drug squad and customs officers seized six tonnes of hashish with a street value of 20 million guilders (\$10 million) hidden in a container-load of jeans from Cyprus, police said on Thursday.

Amsterdam drugs squad chief Leo Zaai said the drugs were hidden in sealed tins, covered with a strong scent to foil sniffer dogs, among boxes full of jeans which arrived in Rotterdam aboard a Soviet ship.

Police were tipped off about the contents of the container, and followed it first to Amsterdam's Schiphol airport and then to a warehouse in Amsterdam, Zaai said.

"This was a big operation run by a professional organisation," he said, declining to reveal the name of the company which took delivery of the container in Amsterdam.

**Evidence against cold fusion:** Britain's Atomic Energy Authority has failed to reproduce experiments claiming to show that nuclear fusion can take place at room temperature, scientists reported on Thursday.

Researchers at the authority's Harwell laboratory found no evidence of cold fusion in their experiments trying to copy ones said to have been carried out by Martin Fleischmann and Stanley Pons of the University of Utah.

Those claims earlier this year created a sensation in the scientific world. Scientists have long theorized that fusion, the process that powers the sun, could provide all the world's electricity needs without using any fossil fuel if harnessed.

But atoms could only be fused together under intense heat and machines costing hundreds of millions of dollars were needed to fuse atoms even for a fraction of a second.

**Mother and daughters shot dead:** A Sicilian woman and her two daughters died in a hail of bullets on Thursday in what police said was a rare Mafia ambush against women.

They were driving a car in the centre of the town of Bagheria when they were approached by gunmen who fired dozens of shots into the vehicle.

Leonarda Costantino, 63, and her adult daughters Vincenza and Lucia were relatives of members of a local Mafia clan, according to police.

Members of the Mafia consider themselves "men of honour" and rarely involve women and children in the bloody wars for supremacy between rival clans.

Bagheria lies within the "triangle of death" near Palermo where more than 20 people have been killed in gangland violence this year.

**Settlement reached on abortion lawsuit:** A major abortion-rights case that the state attorney-general feared would be used by the US Supreme Court to restrict abortions has been settled, the state of Illinois has announced.

The settlement announced Wednesday would guarantee women continued access to abortions in Illinois, said Dr. Bernard Turnock, director of the Illinois Department of Public Health.

Attorney-general Neil Hartigan said for the settlement to stand, the high court would have to delay a scheduled hearing in the case and refer it back to the US district court in Chicago, which would have to approve the settlement.

"We have reached the goal we set at the beginning of our negotiations," Hartigan said. "The principals in this case... have created a system that protects a woman's health and safety while exercising her right of choice."

**Official tries to block disclosure:** US Attorney-General Dick Thornburgh acted on Wednesday to stop disclosure of national security secrets at the Iran-Contra trial of a former US intelligence agent in a move that could scuttle the case.

Thornburgh filed a declaration certifying that classified government information must be protected at the trial of Joseph Fernandez, a former Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) station chief in Costa Rica.

It was the first time that a US attorney-general, America's top legal official, has moved to protect secrets in a case since the law governing the use of classified information at a trial was adopted nine years ago.

## WARNING

ALI ABDULLA AL SANAE TRADING ESTABLISHMENT, the sole authorized agents for the famous French TEFAL products, would like to draw the attention of the customers that imitation products carrying the name TEFAL have recently arrived in KUWAIT and Arabian Gulf markets. Those products are not the genuine French TEFAL products, which have gained its world-wide reputation because of its commitment and compliance to the health standards and specifications applicable in European countries.

The above-mentioned products are not manufactured with the same high-quality non-stick French TEFAL COATING. Therefore, we call upon all housewives in Kuwait and the GCC states to be cautious while purchasing the TEFAL products and ensure that they carry the trade-mark "TEFAL" "MADE IN FRANCE." You can easily find this mark on the handles, the sides, the base, the carton or on the sticker.

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## US may cut more troops from Europe but not now, says Bush

PARIS, Nov 24, (Reuters): President George Bush said in a newspaper interview yesterday that he could not rule out new cuts in United States forces in Europe.

But it was too early to consider such a possibility and any change in troop levels would first be discussed with NATO allies, he said.

In an interview with a group of journalists in Washington, published by the conservative French daily Le Figaro, Bush was asked whether Washington was plan-

ning further military cutbacks in Europe. He announced a 30,000-man pullback in May.

Commenting on his December 2 to 3 meeting off Malta with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, Bush said it was not a summit and there would be no set agenda for the talks.

"Change is so quick in Eastern Europe that I am impatient to hear Mr Gorbachev's views on the future of Europe," he said. "I do not want to let an opportunity

to go by. I want to be sure there are no misunderstandings between us."

Bush reiterated his confidence in Gorbachev, saying that if his reforms succeeded it would lead to a quieter world.

Their talks were likely to touch on East-West relations across the globe, including defence set-ups in Asia, Central America and the Caribbean, he said.

But he said that though the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) could extend its role beyond defence to

economic and environmental issues, for example, he saw no immediate end to the alliance.

"I see NATO as an alliance destined to last," he said. "I will be considering it as very much alive when I arrive at my rendezvous with Mr Gorbachev."

Later, he added: "We are determined to continue to be a very involved partner in NATO and to act in a manner that makes this clear to everyone."



## INTERNATIONAL

## Pretoria may lift media curbs

JOHANNESBURG, Nov 24, (Reuters): South Africa hinted today that it might relax curbs on the media, but said it would keep a close watch on small radical newspapers after they published allegations about police death squads.

State-run radio said in its daily editorial comment, which represents government thinking that the lifting of media restrictions would promote an environment for negotiations with the disenfranchised black majority.

But it added: "There is need for closer monitoring of the activities of some of the smaller newspapers that do not form part of the traditional mainstream of the South African media."

One such paper is the Vrye Weekblad, an anti-apartheid Afrikaans-language weekly which broke the news of the alleged revelations.

Last week it published statements by former security police captain Dirk Coetzee that he led a police death squad which killed anti-apartheid activists.

Today it quoted human rights lawyers as saying they had enough evidence to press murder charges against three senior police officers.

The allegations were picked up by other anti-apartheid newspapers. They published similar charges by another former police officer.

Police have consistently denied the existence of death squads but the government has appointed an internal inquiry to investigate the claims.

The radio statement followed speculation that President F.W. de Klerk would soon lift the severe media restrictions imposed under state of emergency regulations in 1986.

The restrictions include a bar on reports of police action and the activities and statements of banned opposition activists and political organisations.

De Klerk yesterday proclaimed business ownership in Boksburg open to all races, despite efforts by the town council to maintain strict segregation.

Boksburg, an industrial town 12 miles (20 kms) east of Johannesburg, has attracted international attention since members of the far-right conservative party won control of its council last year and re-imposed rigid apartheid.

The council re-segregated public toilets, the park, the library and a sports complex. Blacks responded with a boycott of white-owned businesses and have been using the public facilities in defiance of the council.

Blacks called off the year-old boycott last week after De Klerk called for the repeal of the separate amenities act, a national law that allows for the segregation of many public facilities.

"We've succeeded in bringing Boksburg to the attention of people everywhere," said Henry Jeffreys, secretary of the anti-apartheid Save Boksburg Committee. "The government had no choice but to act."

De Klerk's proclamation, which allows a person of any race to operate a business in Boksburg, is partly symbolic, Jeffreys said.

South Africa's law and order minister has said communists were plotting to wreck police morale and seize power.

Adriaan Vlok told a meeting of the ruling National Party last evening: "There is now a new attempt to break down the morale of the police."

Earlier, police blocked an attempted march from the square to the courthouse, 500 metres (yards) away, by about 30 Muslim women.

The withdrawal, confirmed by a South African military spokesman, formally ends 74 years of South African military involvement in Namibia, which South Africa seized from imperial Germany in World War One.

CAEP TOWN, Nov 24, (AP): Jailed anti-apartheid leader Nelson Mandela, whose release is expected within months, is meeting regularly with government ministers, a fellow African National Congress leader said.

Meanwhile, in Lusaka, ANC leaders and members of the South Africa-based opposition Mass Democratic Movement met with Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, one of the staunchest opponents of South Africa's racial policies.

The ANC, based in Lusaka, is the main

black group attempting to undermine the white-led government.

Govan Mbeki, who spent 23 years in prison with Mandela until his 1987 release, visited Mandela for three hours at Victor Verster prison outside Cape Town.

"He meets with government ministers more or less on a continuous basis," Mbeki told reporters after the meeting, but declined to name any of the ministers or reveal the nature of the discussions.

Mandela, the country's best known black

## Kaifu renews reforms pledge

### Recruit scandal trial opens

TOKYO, Nov 24, (AP): Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu renewed his pledge of political reforms today as the first trial opened in the Recruit Co. bribery scandal, which toppled a government and continues to shake Japanese politics.

"This is an incident that should never be repeated," Kaifu told reporters this morning. "I think we have to work even harder on political reforms."

In the first of a series of trials in the much scrutinised bribery case, two defendants appeared in the Tokyo district court, but both Takashi Kato, a former vice minister of labour, and Masao Tsumi, a former executive of Recruit Co., an information and publishing conglomerate, denied bribery charges.

Kato, 59, who was in a position to supervise Recruit's lucrative employment magazine publishing business when the controversial affair occurred, was charged with receiving a bribe in the form of bargain-priced shares in a subsidiary of the conglomerate.

The prosecution alleges Kato influenced Labour Ministry regulations to benefit Recruit's booming business.

But the elite bureaucrat, while acknowledging the purchase of shares, said he was not aware of a bribery intent behind the stock deal and denied doing any favours for the company.

Tsumi, 47, a former Recruit executive who allegedly played an intermediary role between Kato and Recruit's founder and former chairman, Hirohisa Ezoe, said he has no part in the bargain stock deal.

"I have never discussed the stock deal with Kato and Ezoe, and I have no knowledge about the details of the stock deal with Kato," Tsumi said.

Ezoe will be tried Dec 15 on seven counts of bribery. Four other trials are starting between today and Dec 15 to try two leading politicians, six bureaucrats and four executives of the Recruit Co., accused of trying to win favours and influence by showering huge donations and bargain share deals on the elite of Japanese politics, bureaucracy and business.

In charging Kato, Tsumi and others involved in the stock deal, prosecutors referred to a 1988 Supreme Court decision suggesting that trading stocks certain to rise in value and difficult for the general public to obtain could amount to bribery.

Kato said in his defense that he had no knowledge the shares were certain to rise in value or that the general public would not be able to obtain them. He also said he was not aware the stock prices were set at artificially low levels, as alleged in his charges, he said.

The trial session lasted two hours and 20 minutes before black-robed judge Taketaka Nakagawa under heavy scrutiny of the mass media.

Japanese political sources yesterday said that Japan's parliament (Diet) might be dissolved at the end of next January.

Sources of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party believed that if the parliament was dissolved new elections are expected to take place on Feb 18-25.

East German leader Egon Krenz was quoted today as saying he favours abolishing the Communist Party's constitutional claim to total power, in yet another concession to the pro-democracy movement.

But while explicitly advocating, for the first time, removal of the constitutional provision guaranteeing the party a monopoly on power, he made plain he expects the party to remain a leading force in East Germany.

Also today, East Germans began streaming back into West Berlin and West Germany for their third weekend of shopping and sightseeing since Krenz lifted travel restrictions.

West German officials early today reported a sharp rise in the East Germans' requests for permanent resettlement over the past 24 hours, with nearly 2,000 people seeking to live in the West. That was up from 865 over the previous 24-hour period.

Pro-democracy demonstrations also continued, with about 10,000 protesters rallying in the city of Erfurt last night, said East Germany's state-run ADN news agency.

In the interview published today by the Communist Party daily Neues Deutschland, Krenz called for major constitutional changes to separate the party, state and economy.

Asked about the country's deep political crisis, Krenz mentioned article 1 of the constitution and said: "We are in favour of abolishing it." That is one of the major demands of pro-democracy activists.

"How a party proceeds with the development of society is not put forth through laws or declarations but can only result from work, performance and its attitude," he told the newspaper.

He added: "We are not a corrupt party." Krenz said headline policies of the past decades caused "many basic mistakes, ultimately the crisis of our society."

Krenz, in a television interview last night, had said the government is willing to include the growing opposition movement in proposed "round-table discussions."

The party is making attempts to restore its rapidly sinking credibility and authority.

Leaders of the government-run labour union today requested a probe of Harry Tisch, an ousted politburo member and the former government labour chief, for alleged abuse of power.

Yesterday, the embattled party announced it had opened a probe against ousted leader Erich Honecker and expelled the former economic chief, Guenter Mittag, from the party, blaming them for the crisis now gripping the country.

The disciplinary investigation against Honecker and the others was based on "grave abuses" of the party statute and "responsibility for the current situation in the party and the country," ADN said.

The Communist Party's disciplinary proceedings can result in various sanctions, ranging from rebuke to expulsion from the party.

Krenz replaced the ailing Honecker on Oct 18, the same day Mittag, 63, lost his seat on the ruling politburo. Honecker led the country for 18 years, staunchly resisting the kind of reforms that had taken place in Hungary, Poland and the Soviet Union.

Liberal Democratic Party chief Manfred Gerlach, the first senior establishment figure to call for reform in East Germany, survived a vote of confidence today despite conceding he swam with the tide for years.

Party sources said only one person out of 132 voted against Gerlach at a Liberal Democrats (LDPD) meeting in East Berlin.

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Liberal Democratic Party chief Manfred Gerlach, the first senior establishment figure to call for reform in East Germany, survived a vote of confidence today despite conceding he swam with the tide for years.

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## Krenz favours end of monopoly

EAST BERLIN, Nov 24, (Agencies): East German leader Egon Krenz was quoted today as saying he favours abolishing the Communist Party's constitutional claim to total power, in yet another concession to the pro-democracy movement.

But while explicitly advocating, for the first time, removal of the constitutional provision guaranteeing the party a monopoly on power, he made plain he expects the party to remain a leading force in East Germany.

Also today, East Germans began streaming back into West Berlin and West Germany for their third weekend of shopping and sightseeing since Krenz lifted travel restrictions.

West German officials early today reported a sharp rise in the East Germans' requests for permanent resettlement over the past 24 hours, with nearly 2,000 people seeking to live in the West. That was up from 865 over the previous 24-hour period.

Pro-democracy demonstrations also continued, with about 10,000 protesters rallying in the city of Erfurt last night, said East Germany's state-run ADN news agency.

In the interview published today by the Communist Party daily Neues Deutschland, Krenz called for major constitutional changes to separate the party, state and economy.

Asked about the country's deep political crisis, Krenz mentioned article 1 of the constitution and said: "We are in favour of abolishing it." That is one of the major demands of pro-democracy activists.

"How a party proceeds with the development of society is not put forth through laws or declarations but can only result from work, performance and its attitude," he told the newspaper.

He added: "We are not a corrupt party." Krenz said headline policies of the past decades caused "many basic mistakes, ultimately the crisis of our society."

Krenz, in a television interview last night, had said the government is willing to include the growing opposition movement in proposed "round-table discussions."

The party is making attempts to restore its rapidly sinking credibility and authority.

Leaders of the government-run labour union today requested a probe of Harry Tisch, an ousted politburo member and the former government labour chief, for alleged abuse of power.

Yesterday, the embattled party announced it had opened a probe against ousted leader Erich Honecker and expelled the former economic chief, Guenter Mittag, from the party, blaming them for the crisis now gripping the country.

The disciplinary investigation against Honecker and the others was based on "grave abuses" of the party statute and "responsibility for the current situation in the party and the country," ADN said.

The Communist Party's disciplinary proceedings can result in various sanctions, ranging from rebuke to expulsion from the party.

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Saint(!) Chun

Former South Korean president Chun Doo-hwan (picture) marked his first year of self-exile Thursday by appearing in public for the first time since entering a Buddhist monastery.

During a one-hour ceremony at the Baekdam temple on the east coast, Chun, a Buddhist convert, consecrated "sarira," a relic of Buddha, and spoke to about 5,000 people, admitting to some mistakes but continuing to deny charges that he had harmed the nation.

"Because of short wisdom and ability, I committed some trial and error while in office but the claim that I squandered national treasure and ruined the country is wrong," he said.

Chun, who stepped down Feb 1988 at the end of his seven-year term, went into rural exile nine months later after apologising for corruption and misdeeds committed under his administration.

They charge, among other things, that Chun was involved in the military crushing of a civil uprising in the southern city of Kwangju, during which about 200 people died and 1,500 were injured. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Germany is not a threat: Kohl

### Unity linked to EEC integration

STRASBOURG, France, Nov 24, (AP): West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl said on Wednesday his country "will never again" threaten the rest of Europe.

"Germans ... will never again be a threat but they will be a benefit to the unity of Europe," he told the European Parliament.

Kohl added there is no possibility of German reunification until the 12-nation European Economic Community (EEC) has completed its plans for further economic and monetary integration.

"The unity of Germany can only be completed once we make further headway with the unity of the whole of our old continent, so policy for Germany cannot possibly be separated from the European policy," he said.

"They are two sides of the same coin."

He and French President Mitterrand addressed the Parliament's monthly session separately during a debate on East-West issues.

Both stressed that only by sticking to plans for a single market, beginning in 1992, can the EEC encourage and assist

economic reforms in East Europe and overcome the division of Europe.

Mitterrand said of the single market project: "It's not a question of (the EEC) turning inwards, but of finding in the community's success the energy to allow the whole of Europe to pull together."

Kohl said the drive towards more democracy in East Europe "showed how important the single European act is, how it shows us the road to take."

The 1987 act outlines the basis for the single market that must eventually turn EEC into an economic and monetary union.

"It is the existence of a community that is getting stronger, which served as a reference and stimulus for events in the East," said Mitterrand.

The European Parliament voted overwhelmingly yesterday in support of East Germany's right to self-determination including free elections "without excluding the possibility of becoming part of a unified Germany in a united Europe."

The European deputies adopted the motion by 255 votes for with two ballots against and 32 abstentions.

## Polish PM talks debt with Soviets

MOSCOW, Nov 24, (AP): Polish Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki, the East bloc's only non-communist head of state, today discussed his country's huge debt to the Soviet Union with Soviet Premier Nikolai Ryzhkov, a Polish government spokeswoman said.

Malgorzata Niezabitowska told reporters that the three-hour meeting focused on economic issues and that "Ryzhkov promised the Soviet Union would respect all its agreements."

The Soviet Union supplies Poland with almost all of its oil and natural gas, and shortages have plunged much of Poland into a gasoline crisis.

Niezabitowska said the two sides discussed restructuring Poland's \$1.5-billion debt to the Soviet Union and that further talks on economic issues between experts would be held this afternoon.

The new non-communist government and the Soviet Union signed their first formal agreement on environmental protection.

The two leaders held "very open and wide talks" in a "calm and friendly" atmosphere, Niezabitowska said.

Mazowiecki, a former Solidarity editor and close adviser to Lech Walesa, was to meet Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev for the first time this afternoon.

## Thais favour gradual settlement of Cambodia war

BANGKOK, Nov 23, (AP): Thailand's deputy premier has told Vietnam that his country favours gradual settlement of the Cambodian war, an approach rejected by Indonesia, which is organising a new round of talks.

Along with China, Thailand is the main backer of a guerrilla coalition fighting the government Vietnam installed in Cambodia last year.

"The Cambodian issue must be solved, and in order to advance toward a comprehensive solution ... we could and we should move step by step to settle the problem," Radio Hanoi quoted Deputy Premier Bhichai Rattakul as saying yesterday.

Bhichai spoke at a news conference at the end of a three-day official visit to Hanoi, Vietnam's capital, with other

senior government officials and a group of business people studying prospects after the war. Bhichai, the most senior Thai official to visit communist Vietnam, left for Vietnam's southern commercial centre of Ho Chi Minh on Friday, the Vietnam News Agency said.

According to Radio Hanoi, monitored in Bangkok, Bhichai said that informal peace talks being organised by Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said yesterday that could happen by February.

The Cambodian resistance and most governments involved in the issue say the conflict must be resolved with a single package tackling all the major issues.

## Beijing protests US bill on visas

BEIJING, Nov 24, (AP): China said today a US congressional bill making it easier for Chinese students to prolong their stays in the United States was "absolutely unacceptable" and threatened a "strong response."

Vice-Foreign Minister Liu Huaqing, in a meeting with acting US embassy Charge d'Affaires Lynn Pascoe, expressing China's "utmost indignation" over the legislation passed by both houses of Congress earlier this week, the official Xinhua news agency said.

On Sunday, the Foreign Ministry also formally protested congressional action to extend economic sanctions against China to show US disapproval of China's violent suppression of democracy demonstrators this spring and its continued suppression of political dissent.

China's military crackdown of the student-led protests last June, and US criticisms of China's repressive policies, have plunged bilateral relations to their lowest level since official ties were formed in 1979.

Liu said the students bill was "a direct violation of international practice" and "a serious breach of the Sino-US bilateral agreement" on student exchanges signed in 1987.

Previously, the more than 30,000 Chinese students in the United States holding exchange visitor or J-1 visas had to return home for at least two years before applying to the United States for a change in visa status.

The bill, designed to protect Chinese who fear prosecution upon their return home, would allow Chinese students to apply for a change in visa status within four years of entering the United States.

"By this action, the US Congress has thoroughly revealed itself as a protagonist of power politics," Liu said. "The legislative basis it has set forth is also extremely absurd and therefore absolutely unacceptable to us."

Meanwhile, former Chinese Communist Party leader Zhao Ziyang, who was sacked in June and accused of fomenting student protests, should act to correct his mistakes, his hardline rival Premier Li Peng said.

"We did not say Zhao Ziyang betrayed the party. We only said he committed mistakes," Li said in an interview with the West German publication Die Welt, extracts of which were released by the Chinese authorities on Thursday.

China's Communist Party expelled 12,500 of its 48 million members in the first nine months of this year as part of an anti-corruption drive, an official newspaper reported Thursday.

The China Daily said the 12,500 deprived of party membership were among 60,000 disciplined this year for improper behaviour.



# Afghan rebels plan elections

ISLAMABAD, Nov 24 (Agencies): The Afghan rebel government said on Wednesday it would hold its first elections to a representative assembly by April next year, among Afghans in refugee camps and rebel-held areas of the war-torn country.

Syed Ahmad Gailani, chief justice of the Pakistan-based Afghan interim government, told a news conference six of the seven rebel parties in the government had signed a charter agreeing on elections for a 500-member shura, or assembly.

The rebel government has announced plans for elections before but diplomats said Wednesday's announcement appeared to mark the first sign of broad agreement on their form.

A radical mujahideen leader said yesterday plans by Afghan rebels to hold elections for a democratic assembly were "un-Islamic" and unworkable because they allowed both good and bad people to vote.

A spokesman for Yousuf Khalis, interior minister in the provisional rebel government and head of the Hezb-i-Islami (khalis) party, issued a statement dismissing election plans agreed by the six other Pakistan-based mujahideen parties.

"Western-style elections make no distinction between knowledgeable people and people without knowledge, or good and bad," the statement said, adding that such ballots were "un-Islamic" and inappropriate to Afghanistan.

Women should not be given the vote, the statement added.

The Soviet-backed Kabul government controls Afghanistan's major cities but large parts of the country are in mujahideen hands and many Afghans migrate regularly between the two.

Gailani said Afghans over the age of 16 living in refugee camps in Pakistan and Iran or in "liberated" areas of the country would be able to vote.

But it was unclear whether the strongly Islamic rebel alliance would grant the vote to women.

"It is rather difficult for women to vote in the present circumstances, under war conditions. It is even difficult for men to vote," Gailani told reporters.

The rebel government has held discussions with Iranian officials on how to hold ballots among the two million Afghans in Iran and would consider inviting the United Nations or other international organisations to supervise the election, he added.

A Pakistani Army captain was jailed for 20 years by an Afghan court on Wednesday for spying, the official Kabul Radio said.

The broadcast, identified the man as Mohammad Rafiq whom it said was arrested by security forces on June 28 in the eastern province of Nangarhar.

It said Rafiq confessed to entering Afghanistan illegally on a spying mission and helping rebel fighting the Soviet-backed government.

## Abu Nidal in crisis

TUNIS, Nov 24 (Reuters): An extremist Palestinian group led by Abu Nidal is going through a deep internal crisis, Palestinian leader Salah Khalaf said.

Khalaf said the Fatah Revolutionary Council's divisions were being fuelled by defections and Libyan second thoughts about giving it a safe haven.

"The movement had an internal crisis in 1977 but this time it is different. This split has affected fundamental cadres and the situation in Libya is no longer stable," Khalaf told Reuters in an interview.

Key members of the FRC have defected and Libya, which has given Abu Nidal protection since 1987, is reconsidering its position, he added.

The West links the FRC, which has bases in Libya and Lebanon, to attacks in Rome, Vienna, Sudan, Athens, Paris and Karachi and Washington says it is the most dangerous terrorist organisation in existence.

Two defectors from the FRC politburo, Atef Abu Bakr and Abdurrahman Issa, have accused Abu Nidal of killing 156 members over the past few months at the group's premises in Libya.

They say Abu Nidal has in recent years developed signs of schizophrenia. He is increasingly depressed, paranoid and liable to order purges of his closest colleagues.

"Abu Nidal is a complex personality as a result of his childhood and a complex personality like him could well have all kinds of mental diseases," Khalaf said.

Abu Nidal was born to wealthy Palestinian parents in Jaffa near Tel Aviv, probably in 1937. Some sources give his birthdate as 1935, 1936 or 1943.

## Democracy

ADEN, Nov 24 (Reuters): Marxist South Yemen said yesterday democracy had become a reality. "Democracy has become a modern phenomenon and an essential need for the Yemeni people which has to be translated into practical action such as respecting human rights, freedom of press and freedom of expression," the Socialist Party said in a statement.

South Yemen, following East Europe's reform wave, lifted travel restrictions a week ago, allowing its citizens to visit North Yemen with only their identity cards.

**Israeli contracts**

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Nov 24 (AP): Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has told US officials and American Jewish leaders that Israel's contracts with South Africa would not be renewed when they expire in 1992, a US Jewish leader said yesterday.

The statement by Seymour D. Reich, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish organisations in New York, was the first indication of the termination date of Israel's existing contracts with South Africa.

## Soldiers executed

NAIROBI, Nov 24 (Reuters): Rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army said on Wednesday the government had executed 40 soldiers for backing SPLA guerrillas.

An SPLA radio broadcast, said 26 of those allegedly shot by firing squad were from southern Sudan, powerbase of the rebels, and 14 belonged to the Numbur people of the southern Kordofan province.

The soldiers were executed between November 14 and 17 at Markhi, west of the town of Omdurman, close to Sudan's capital Khartoum, it said.

## Judge indicts 18

PARIS, Nov 24 (UPI): An investigating judge indicted a pro-Iranian fundamentalist leader and 17 other people yesterday on charges of carrying out a wave of terrorist attacks in Paris in 1986 that killed 13 people.

Judge Gilles Houlouque charged Fouad Ali Saleh, a Tunisian, with being the "chief co-ordinator" of the bombings, choosing the targets, receiving the explosives and maintaining contacts with the pro-Iranian Hezbollah.

Of the other 17 people indicted, eight are Lebanese nationals on the run and sought by France on international arrest warrants.

## KAL suspends flight

SEOUL, Nov 24 (AP): Korean Air (KAL) has been ordered to suspend its flight service to Tripoli for two months from Jan 1 in connection with the crash of a KAL DC-10 in Libya last July, the Transportation Ministry said yesterday.

Officials said the government action followed the ministry's conclusion after months of investigation that pilot error caused the crash in which 74 people aboard and six on the ground were killed.

They said the suspension order was final and irrevocable and that the South Korean flag carrier accepted the order.

## Soviet mothers

ISLAMABAD, Nov 24 (Reuters): A group of fearful Soviet mothers, hoping for reunions with soldier sons, arrived in Islamabad today on a special plane from Moscow.

Two of the women said they had been promised that their sons, Andrei Lopukh and Valery Prokopyuk, would be handed over by a rebel group in a few days, following Pakistani efforts to win their release.

The mothers, armed with old photographs, are on a mission for any news of men missing during the Afghan war.

## Elections delay

RABAT, Nov 24 (Reuters): King Hassan proposed on Wednesday that Morocco's parliamentary elections be postponed for two years while the United Nations organises a referendum to settle the western Sahara war.

The king said he would order a plebiscite 10 days' time asking voters for a two-year extension of the present parliament's mandate.

"I want internationally-recognised frontiers and only the referendum can give us international frontiers," he said.

## Cautious response

TUNIS, Nov 24 (Reuters): Tunisian opposition parties have responded cautiously to President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali's proposal to consult them on national issues.

The replies of four parties were carried by weekly magazines yesterday as letters to Prime Minister Hamed Karoui.

In a speech on Nov 7 Ben Ali offered to revive a national pact council as a forum for consultation between the ruling party and the six other parties, which won no seats in parliament in general elections last April.

## Egypt, Iraq talk on workers' row

Saddam dashes to Cairo

CAIRO, Nov 24 (Agencies): Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and President Hosni Mubarak yesterday held talks believed to have focused on the row over the exodus of Egyptian workers out of Iraq and prospects of resolving the issue of delayed payments owed by Baghdad to the Egyptians' working.

The Middle East News Agency reported that Saddam and Mubarak held talks shortly after Saddam's arrival earlier in the day on an unscheduled visit to Cairo but gave no further details.

Speaking to reporters, Mubarak blamed the Egyptian press for overreacting to the issue and said a number of newspapers' reports were exaggerating.

Mubarak said both countries are working to resolve the problem of the delayed remittances and payments owed to the Egyptians in Iraq.

"We tend to exaggerate this issue... but we must not make a big issue out of it... for we are brethren," Mubarak said.

"We must work to narrow the existing gap instead of making it wider as our media is doing now for no good reason... we must seek the truth and be exact for these are Arab-Arab relations," he said.

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Zotov: annoyance

## 'Syria has right to arm'

DAMASCUS, Nov 24 (AP): Soviet Ambassador Alexander Zotov said that Syria has the right to obtain any weapons it may need so that it does not feel in a position of weakness facing Israel.

Zotov spoke at a news conference he called a day after expressing annoyance at what he called attempts by the foreign news media to sow doubt on ties between Syria and the Soviet Union.

"Syria has a full right to obtain any weapons, so that it does not feel weak facing any negotiations that Israel may propose from a position of strength or threat," he said at the news conference.

Zotov accused what he called "Zionist propaganda" or "purposely exaggerating the strength of Syria, in order to allow Israel to continue the arms race and achieve its blackmail policies."

"We understand that exerting pressure on Syria, our closest ally, is harmful to our interests in the area, therefore we shall not allow anybody to shake the mutual confidence existing between us and Syria," he said.

Zotov appeared to be referring to his interview with a Washington Post correspondent that was published in the newspaper on Monday.

## Khalaf warns of radical reaction

TUNIS, Nov 24 (Agencies): Palestinian leader Salah Khalaf warned that Palestinians in the occupied territories would turn to Muslim fundamentalist and radical groups if Israel continued to reject a PLO role in a peace settlement.

Khalaf told Reuters the prospects for peace looked bleaker to him now than for a long time mainly because Israel and Washington would not budge on denying the PLO the right to represent Palestinians under Israeli occupation.

"It's not so bad for me because I live in relative comfort. But what about the people in the occupied territories and Palestinians scattered across the world. That's why I say don't push the Palestinians people to despair," he said.

Khalaf, also known as Abu Iyad, said if no settlement emerged soon Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip would turn to Muslim fundamentalist groups or to Palestinian rebel groups which reject Arafat's policy of a settlement based on a two-state solution.

"Iran has an impact on both these trends. Hizbollah (Party of God) have been active in the occupied territories for the past two years," added Khalaf, security chief in the mainstream Fatah organisation.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir on Monday asked the United States to halt its dialogue with the PLO, saying it has no place either directly or indirectly in the peace process.

Shamir claimed he had won US assurances in talks last week that Washington would not pressure Israel to talk to the PLO.

Returning from a 11-day trip to the United States and Europe, Shamir said today he had reached an understanding with the US administration to pursue the Israeli peace initiative.

Three Palestinians were shot and killed yesterday during violence in the West Bank, including a woman fatally wounded after a suspected collaborator opened fire, military and Palestinian sources said.

At least 11 Arabs also were shot and wounded during confrontations with Israeli soldiers, the sources said.

Two of the Palestinians shot yesterday were killed by fellow Palestinians in the West Bank town of Nablis.

Arab gunmen shot Hanifeh Abdelrahman Swais, 35, three times as she entered the Cashah district, Palestinian sources said.

Israeli forces in Gaza Strip have arrested 20 Palestinians and discovered two Kalashnikov rifles which they suspect were used to kill two Israeli soldiers, security sources said.

A UN panel has approved a proposal to condemn Israel for the annexation of the occupied territory and other illegal practices against the Palestinian people.

The action came in the special political committee, one of the General Assembly's main committees. It now goes before the plenary for approval.

Seymour Reich, chairman of the conference of presidents of major American Jewish organisations, told a news conference he believed US support for Israel was diminished despite some differences between the governments.

## New Jordan senate named

AMMAN, Nov 24 (AP): King Hussein has appointed an expanded new senate, including the first woman in the legislature's history, ahead of a landmark opening of parliament next week.

State-run Jordan television announced the appointments.

The 40-member senate, expanded from 30 members, will hold a joint session on Monday with the new 80-man Chamber of Deputies elected earlier this month in the first nationwide vote since 1967.

The legislative session will be the first since 1950 to omit representation for the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

The royally appointed senate, like Britain's House of Lords, must approve all legislation, but has fewer powers than the chamber of deputies.

Muslim fundamentalists captured at least 34 seats in the lower house in the Nov 8 voting. The government must ally itself either with leftists or Islamists to pass its own legislative programme.

But the new senate is dominated by current and former officials, well-known government loyalists who will have the power to block radical measures passed on from the lower house.

"If they act as one would anticipate, they would act as a stabilising element," said newly appointed Senator Laia Sharaf, who becomes the first woman in either house of parliament.

The former information minister said in a telephone interview her appointment was "a positive gesture towards women."

He said the major issues uniting the bloc were Jordan's ailing economy and achieving political freedom, including legalisation of political parties and abolishing martial law, in force since the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

For the first time in many years the government will have no automatic majority in the new 80-seat parliament, where it will face 22 Muslim Brotherhood deputies and 12 other Islamists in addition to the democratic bloc.

She expressed disappointment in the result of the Nov 8 election, when all 12 female candidates were defeated in the first nationwide election open to women voters and candidates.

The new senate also includes Prime Minister Zeid Bin Shaker, and three former prime ministers.

Excluded was former prime minister and senator Zaid Rifai, who was forced from office in April by a wave of rioting over price rises and government high-handedness.

Hussein is due to deliver a major policy speech on Monday to open a joint session of the new parliament, expanded from the old 30-member senate and 60-man Chamber of Deputies.

Meanwhile, fourteen newly-elected Jordanian deputies have formed a bloc in the lower house of parliament which could tip the balance in favour of either moderates or fundamentalists.

Fakhri Kawa, an independent leftist deputy, told Reuters the new democratic bloc groups leftists, nationalists and pro-Israeli Baathists.

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## Beijing offers truce observers for Mideast

UNITED NATIONS, Nov 24 (AP): For the first time since it joined the United Nations 17 years ago, China is seeking a military role in UN peacekeeping operations and is offering five military observers in the Middle East.

Switzerland, which never joined the UN body but has non-voting observer status, also offered to contribute five observers to the UN Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO), UN officials said on Wednesday.

Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said in a letter released on Wednesday that he intends to accept both offers, totalling 10 men, with the approval of the Security Council.

Chinese sources said on Wednesday that the Beijing government was seeking to play a larger role in the international organisation in both political and peacekeeping arenas. China joined the United Nations in 1972 and is one of five permanent members of the Security Council which meet regularly to co-ordinate responses to UN security issues.

So far China has contributed 20 civilian election monitors to the Namibian election process, but there has been no military involvement in UN peacekeeping and observer operations world-wide.

The enhanced role of the United Nations in conflict resolution and the successes of its peacekeepers have contributed to China's decision, diplomats said.

Perez de Cuellar said in a letter to the president of the Council for November, Chinese Ambassador Li Luyue, that the Chinese government has offered to contribute five military observers for UNTO.

He also said Switzerland had offered to contribute five more military observers to UNTO.

## Greece to hold Rashid

ATHENS, Nov 24 (Reuters): A suspected Palestinian commando wanted by the United States for bombing a US airlines will stay in Greece until September, Greece's new justice minister said today.

Constantine Stamatidis told reporters Mohammed Rashid could be kept in jail for 18 months following a supreme court ruling last May that he should be extradited to the United States.

"This brings us to next September," Stamatidis said.

Socialist leader Andreas Papandreu and communist leader Harilaos Trikoupi also said this week a decision on the extradition would be taken in September.

Washington wants Rashid, 34, tried for a 1982 blast aboard a Hawaii-bound Pan American plane which killed a Japanese teenager and wounded 15 other passengers.

The final decision lies with the government, which can overrule the court on political grounds. But the new all-party government of conservatives, socialists and communists sworn in yesterday will serve only until elections in April.

The new government is the third to duck the decision on Rashid. The United States has warned Greece that failure to extradite him could damage US-Greek relations, while the PLO has said extraditing him would hit PLO-Greek relations.

He maintains he was mistaken for someone else and his real name is Mohammed Hamdan.

## 3 Arabs killed in Pakistan explosion

PESHAWAR, Nov 24 (Reuters): A remote-controlled bomb blast killed three Arab supporters of Afghan rebels as they drove to Friday prayers in the north-west Pakistan town of Peshawar, witnesses said.

The witnesses said Palestinian Abdullah Al Ezzam, a former university teacher, was killed with his two sons when the bomb exploded in a sewer outside a mosque as they drove up their way to an Islamic prayer meeting.

Police officials at the scene said the three, Sheikh Abdullah Al Ezzam and his two sons, Ebrahim, 23, and Adnan, 15, reportedly were involved in Afghanistan's brutal decade-old war, fighting on the side of anti-communist rebels.

A police officer, who refused to be identified, said Al Ezzam recruited nationals from Arab countries to fight along US-backed rebels.

The bomb, planted in a roadside drainage ditch, was detonated when Al Ezzam's car passed by, police said.

Witnesses said that within 30 minutes of the explosion, about three dozen nationals of Arab countries, such as Sudan and Saudi Arabia, rallied outside the mosque chanting anti-American slogans, until they were dispersed by police.

Al Ezzam was a teacher of Islamic law at Islamabad's International Islamic University before leaving four years ago to devote himself to the rebel cause.

No-one immediately claimed responsibility for the bombing. Several Arabs at the scene said they believed it was the work of Afghan government agents.

Pakistan authorities have blamed the Afghan government for a series of bomb attacks which have killed about 300 people since 1987. Kabul denies the charge.

Pakistan plays host to an estimated three million Afghan refugees as well as the main mujahideen groups, which have their main offices in Peshawar.

## No missiles for Mideast, says China

BEIJING, Nov 24 (AP): China yesterday denied selling missiles to Syria and said it had no plans to provide any Middle East country with medium-range missiles.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Jin Guizhu said at a weekly briefing that reports quoting US and Israeli intelligence sources and alleging an arms agreement between Syria and China were "utterly groundless."

One report by a United Arab Emirates newspaper in July said China had agreed to supply an unlimited number of M-9 surface-to-surface medium-range missiles to Syria.

"China has all along adopted a serious attitude toward the question of selling missiles," Jin said.

He said that except for "a few missiles sold to Saudi Arabia, China has not sold and is not prepared to sell any medium-range missiles to any Middle East countries."

Last year, it was reported that China had provided CSS-2 intermediate-range missiles to the Saudi government.

## Shatt treaty valid: Iran

NICOSIA, Nov 24 (AP): Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani has reiterated his country's insistence on abiding by a 1975 treaty that draws the Iran-Iraq border down the middle of the Shatt Al Arab waterway, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported yesterday.

Rafsanjani also said the only way to reach a formal peace settlement in the eight-year Gulf war was to implement fully United Nations Security Council Resolution 598.

"The 1975 accord is the basis for determining the Iran-Iraq border and it is indispensable and binding," the Iranian state-run agency quoted Rafsanjani as saying. It said he spoke on Wednesday.

The treaty was signed by Iraqi and Iranian leaders in Algiers.

Rafsanjani also said the only way to reach a formal peace settlement in the eight-year Gulf war was to implement fully United Nations Security Council Resolution 598.

## Jewish and Muslim passions meet at the Temple Mount

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Nov 24 (Reuters): All the passions that have kept Jews and Muslims battling for decades meet in one 14 hectare (34-acre) rectangle of land in the heart of Jerusalem.

Nowhere are the rival claims to this ancient land clearer. The Temple Mount is sacred to both Muslims and Jews, a conflict that runs much deeper than mere political dispute.

"You must understand this very holy place was taken from us by occupation," said Gershon Salomon. "We are going to take back a place promised to us by God."

Salomon's Jewish Organisation is the

Temple Mount faithful, dismissed as fringe extremists by Israeli officials. But they realise its potential for stirring religious passions among Palestinians already angered by steady Israeli encroachment on their land.

"If anything happens to Al-Aqsa mosque there will be no peace at all," said Ahmed El Amini, the son of the mufti of Jerusalem, Sheikh Saïd El Din El Amini. You are attacking the whole Muslim world."

A recent attempt by Salomon's group to lay a symbolic cornerstone for a Jewish temple on the Temple Mount prompted

the mufti, the highest Muslim official in the city, to call on the faithful to protect the sacred area.

Authorities blocked Salomon's group from the site, which holds the Dome of the Rock and the Al Aqsa mosque, but the attempt prompted the Jerusalem Post newspaper to warn in an article headlined "Stop this madness" that someone might destroy the Muslim shrines.

The claims of both Muslims and Jews are rooted in ancient religious traditions. Muslims, besides sharing biblical associations with the arid hilltop in the old

city of Jerusalem, believe Mohammed (PBUH) rose to heaven from the rock. Their monuments date to shortly after the seventh century Muslim conquest.

The Jewish claim is even earlier. Here stood their first temple destroyed by the Babylonians in 586 B.C., then the monumental second temple that was levelled by the Roman army during the Jewish rebellion in 70 A.D.

Only the second temple platform survived, including the western "wailing wall" that has been a focus of Jewish reverence through the centuries.



# Municipality cracks down on pedlars in Salmiya

## 15 arrested, suitcases confiscated

By Jamil Ameen

KUWAIT Municipality organised several inspection campaigns at Salem Al Mubarak Street and Salmiya commercial area in connection with pedlars. "Al Seyassah" took part in some of these inspection campaigns which comprised of a number of officials and inspectors at Kuwait Municipality and the Second Area Control for Pedlars Affairs. The whole of Salem Mubarak Street

was inspected by officials and a number of violators were cited.

Saleh Hmoud Al Ghwainem told the daily that Kuwait Municipality was fully concerned with chasing and combatting pedlars with the co-operation of the Ministry of Interior.

One of the main steps taken by the municipality was establishing special sections to combat pedlars at different areas. Such sections carried out duties which included distribution of inspectors

at shopping areas.

Sections attached to Kuwait Municipality had three shifts per day; the first shift starting from 6:30 am and ending at 12:30 pm, the second shift starting from 12:30 pm to 6:30 pm and the third shift from 6:30 pm until 12:30 am.

### Arrests

During the inspection campaign at Salem Mubarak Street, municipality inspectors were able to arrest 15 pedlars.

Ghwainem stated that most pedlars belong to East Asian countries and Yemen.

Regarding the type of goods sold to customers by these pedlars, he said that clothes, toys and watches were among the goods seized by Kuwait Municipality during inspection campaigns. He added that at least seven full suitcases of goods were seized by Kuwait Municipality inspection teams.

He said that goods of pedlars were seized by inspectors, then special police reports were issued for pedlars by the municipality and then pedlars were referred to officials at the Ministry of Interior.

Regarding the problem of icecream sellers, he pointed out that each of the sellers has specific assigned locations to work at, but ice-cream sellers were still a problem.

## Action Line

I HAVE been working in a private establishment since 1979. Can I submit my resignation during the annual leave period and can it be considered as part of the notice period or is it compulsory to attend duty during the notice period?

As I have completed 10 years of service, will I be entitled to full benefits at the end of service. I have since then receiving an average of KD2000 bonus on an annual basis. Will this bonus be given consideration while giving all my dues?

As I am employed on a monthly basis, please explain how the leave salary is calculated i.e. divided by 30 days or 26 days?

Y.K. Safat

IF YOU resign you'll get only half the benefits, that is 7.5 days salary for the first five years of service and 15 days salary for each year after five years. Also you are not eligible for the notice period compensation.

However, you may have to give compensation to the company if you discontinue your services without working during the notice period. At least 15 days notice must be given on resigning from your job. There is no consideration for the bonus while giving your dues. Leave salary is calculated by 26 days only.

I WAS working in Kuwait on visa no. 18 in different companies. Since 1982 I got a job in a construction company. This company has stamped five years residence for me, but I have left before the completion of five years and my residence expires in June 1990. I joined another sponsor who told me that he cannot give me a new visa because the previous company's project has not been completed. Is this true. If not, what should I do?

Anon

YOU cannot work with another sponsor when you are sponsored by the first one. You have to get a release from your first sponsor so as not to violate the law here. Your new sponsor was not willing to give you a new work permit because your old sponsor did not cancel your visa No. 18. It is better for you to check whether your old sponsor will give you a release. You can personally check with your old company in order to avoid violation of the law here.

\*\*\*

I AM working in Kuwait for almost three years. My wife is working in Saudi Arabia. I want her to spend her holiday in Kuwait in March 1990. Can I get a visit visa for her for 45 days? What are the requirements for a visit visa? How long it will take to get such a visa?

Francisco

VISIT visas are valid only for one month. Persons should leave the country when the visa expires. When demanding another entry, the applicant must get a new visa. The documents needed: a copy of the visitor's passport, documentary evidence to say she is a relative of yours, salary certificate recently issued by the sponsor, Civil ID, and visa application form. The Immigration Department reserves the right to accept or refuse any application.

\*\*\*

I AM a domestic helper. When I finished my contract I went back home.

I was not sure of coming back so I have not a re-entry visa. It happened that I asked my old sponsor to send the visa and the ticket. So my sponsor sent it by telex but the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration did not accept it, so they sent again through air mail the original copy of the visa.

I received the visa last June 30, and the ticket on June 5.

I arrived in Kuwait last July 9. My employer failed to transfer my temporary visa to my passport, and the Immigration authorities told my sponsor to pay a fine of more than KD100 for such a delay. My problem is that my sponsor told me that I should pay the fine. Do I have to pay the fine from my salary which is KD40. If not what should I do in order to explain that to my employer?

Josie

IT IS better to talk your employer in a friendly manner in order to solve this problem. It is not your fault that your residence was not endorsed in your passport. Your employer should pay that fine, because he is responsible for the delay. Such problems can be solved if you talk to your employer and sort it out.

I WANT to know about those who are allowed to get permission for absence abroad for a period exceeding six months.

A. Mahdi

ACCORDING to Article 31 of the Aliens Residence Law: An alien holding residence permit may be granted a permission for absence abroad for a period exceeding six months in the following cases:

1. For those studying abroad together with their companions, provided that such a fact is proved by presenting official accredited certificates.
2. For patients, together with their companions, whose treatment abroad requires a period exceeding six months, as duly proved and certified by medical reports.
3. Officials of ministries, institutes and companies together with their companions, whose stay abroad requires a period exceeding six months according to a letter issued by the principal office of the authority or corporation.

The application for obtaining the said residence permit should be submitted by the concerned person or his legal representative.

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I WANT to know when the employer has the right to terminate the labourer without notice and indemnity.

P. Salim

ACCORDING to Article 55 of the Labour Law No. 38/1964: The employer shall have the right to terminate the labourer without notice and indemnity in the following cases:

1. If he commits a fault resulting in a serious loss of the employer.
2. If he repeatedly disobeys the instructions of the employer, save cases where the safety of labourers and the security of work are required. In such cases the repetition is not deemed on condition. However, in all the circumstances the provision of the approved penalty regulations shall be observed.
3. If he has been absent from duty for more than seven consecutive days without any legal reason.
4. If he has been convicted of a crime affecting honour, honesty or morality.
5. If he commits an act against public morality in the place of work.
6. If he commits any assault upon a fellow labourer, the employer or his representative during work or because of work with observation of the provision specified in the approved penalty regulations.
7. He commits a breach of, or fails to carry out any of the obligations imposed on him under the terms of the relevant contract and the provision of this law.
8. If it is proved that the labourer has used fraud to obtain work.
9. If the labourer reveals any secrets relating to the concern he works for.

\*\*\*

If you have a legal problem, labour or any other kind, send your questions to Arab Times Legal Clinic. Our Kuwaiti lawyer Khaled Taher replies to readers' queries. Write to Arab Times, P.O. Box 2270, 13023, Safat, Kuwait or fax your questions on Fax No. 4847495.

# Rights of Arab women in danger

## Freedom still not real: sociologist

GENEVA, Nov. 24, (Kuna): Women's access to education and employment in Middle Eastern countries can be considered as one of the most striking upheavals that have taken place in these societies in the 20th century, according to Mona Makram Ebeid, the Egyptian delegate to the four-day symposium organised here by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).

Ebeid, who is lecturer at the American University of Cairo and the Institute of Diplomatic Studies at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Egypt, told Kuna that Arab nations had rich culture and tradition but that certain values needed to be fostered.

"What women have access to education and employment is one of the most overwhelming things to happen in Middle Eastern societies... but today there is a fear of women by those who would like women to go back home and be spectators," she observed.

In some Middle East countries, certain forces are engaged in a manipulation of sacred texts, with the intent to exclude women from public life, and "this is the sacralization of politics," Ebeid

pointed out.

The delegate stressed that the issue was not one of women but democracy and respect for human rights. "Repressing democracy invariably effects women more strongly because they have always been one of the most vulnerable sections of society."

During the liberal age of Egypt, which started in 1919 with the Nationalist Revolution, women went out in streets to demonstrate for the national cause. They were involved in a political issue and as a sign of their participation they removed the veil. This revolution was an "eye-opener" to many, she maintained.

As an offshoot of the movement, the first feminist union was founded in the Middle East in 1923 under the leadership of Hooda Sharawi — and this period began to see the birth of parties — the participation of the masses, Ebeid explained.

Historically, Ebeid outlines 3 waves in the evolution of female participation in politics: the first whereby women acquired their rights (from 1919), the second in which women were given their rights, to vote and be elected

(1956), and the third which today is concerned with keeping these rights in view of the obscurantist ideas which have re-emerged.

### Liberalisation

Ebeid stressed that the Arab world is opening up. "I believe in a new revival of the Arab world, and I hope that women are on the path to obtain more and more."

Egypt, for example, has liberalised, she maintained. "What it lacks today is competitive democracy. Though it has obtained freedom of speech, freedom of the press, a feeling that you can join different parties... however, democracy is still a feeling, a commitment, it is not yet a reality," in Ebeid's view.

The educated generation of the Arab world must act now, she urged. "We have nothing to envy the West, we have been exposed to Western education and we have something over and above them: our culture and traditions."

The Harvard education sociologist, observed that educated women, in this context, have a responsibility towards the rest — to erase illiteracy among women, to make them aware of their rights, and to offer them a model of what women can do.

# Less shrimp in market because of restrictions

THE deputy chairman of the Kuwaiti Fishermen's Union, Abdul Rahman Al Shatti, said that members of the union met the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed to discuss with him the problems and demands of fishermen who suffer because they are prohibited from fishing in some areas.

Shatti said the reduction of fresh shrimps in the local market was due to the Public Authority for Agriculture and Fish Wealth that reduced the number of boats allowed to catch shrimps.

Accordingly prices of shrimps increased in the markets.

He added that the authority confiscated 75 fishing boats.

The rumours about diseases of Australian sheep made citizens prefer eating fish and this increased prices of fresh fish.

Shatti added that Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed promised to study and solve the problems of fishermen. He ordered the Interior and Defence Ministries to co-ordinate with the union to allow fishermen to fish in some prohibited areas.

They agreed to have check points at sea. The fishermen would come to these points and hand their identities there. Then they would be allowed to fish near Bubiyan Island. They can get their identities back after completing their fishing, he said.



Technical books exhibition

A technical books and magazines exhibition was opened at the Technology Studies Faculty premises at Shuwaikh by the director-general of the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (PAAET), Dr Abdul Rahman Al Muhallan, in co-operation with the American embassy in Kuwait.

The opening ceremony was attended by the US Ambassador, W. Nathaniel Howell, the Dean of Technological Studies, Dr Sulaiman Shamsuddin, and a number of officials.

## Faculty of law

# Post-graduate curriculum proposal still under study

By Fawzi Al Tamimi

THE assistant dean of students affairs at the Faculty of Law of Kuwait University, Dr Ahmad Al Sammak, said that the foremost shortage at the faculty was the absence of a post-graduate study curriculum, particularly since a special study had been made in this respect. However, the programme remained to be endorsed and put into force by the university administration.

He told Al Seyassah that the faculty was looking forward to a positive decision on the proposed computerisation of the judicial clauses programme, and that, despite the formation of a special committee to look into this project, nothing had yet been done to implement it.

He said the faculty had consistent co-operation ties with all university faculties, stressing that all university facilities served the same noble objective. He said that the first Kuwait Conference on Law and Computers which the faculty organised had a significant role in promoting legal and scientific research activities through the use of computers.

System He said that more students were enrolling in the faculty, although a firm acceptance policy had been drawn up to meet the faculty's class capacity to ensure the best academic atmosphere for students, and provide adequate number of classes and teachers.

He said that the faculty tried to apply the credit-hour system in 1976 and an integrated curricular

programme was developed for this purpose, but due to the optional and obligatory subjects under this system and freedom of choice given to students, teachers could not adequately handle this system, which was the reason for having second thoughts about its applicability.

He said students faced no serious problems at the faculty, that the dean was ready to enable students find solutions to any problems they brought to his attention, and stressed students satisfaction with the current study system.

Most students enrolling at the faculty did very well at their secondary education, science or arts, and that any low performance by students at the faculty could very well be attributed to the nature of legal studies taught there, Sammak added.

## Shamlian meets UK counterpart

LONDON, Nov. 24, (Kuna): Kuwait's Higher Education Minister Ali Abdulla Al Shamlian met here last night with his British counterpart John MacGregor and discussed the advanced bilateral educational relations.

During their 40-minute meeting the two ministers also reviewed the higher education and vocational systems applied by the countries.

Kuna learnt that Shamlian displayed obvious interest in Britain's technical and vocational education and also in benefiting from British expertise in this field.

MacGregor had welcomed educational co-operation with Kuwait and extended an official invitation to Shamlian to visit UK.

The meeting was attended by Kuwait's Ambassador in London Ghazi Al Rayyes and the Kuwaiti Cultural Attache Ahmed Al Aduwaisan.

## More facilities for Farwaniya governorate

THE Governor of Farwaniya Sheikh Ahmad Al Humoud, said that the council of the governorate will study the needs of citizens and offer more facilities and services to them.

It will also discuss their general problems and co-ordinate with relevant authorities in carrying out the projects in the governorate.

He added that Farwaniya governorate suffers from various social and security problems but they are not serious ones. Commenting on troubles caused by young boys in the area, Sheikh Ahmad said that the only solution for the problem lay in the co-operation between officials and families of these boys in order to guide and offer the right education for their children, on Islamic values and traditions. The family should

observe its children and guide them continuously to make them productive for their country and society. The state offered different facilities and services for youths to make them the men of future, he added.

The governor said that his governorate co-operated with officials of ministries to offer public services for citizens and discuss their urgent requirements.

The governorate took part in different activities carried out by ministries and public establishments. For instance it took part in the second landscaping week by planting trees and organising seminars and lectures on the occasion. It will also take part in the Cleanliness Week at the end of this month, he said.

## Aid to Somalia

A full load shipment left Shuwaikh Port on Wednesday to Somalia upon the directives of HH the Amir.

The shipment consisted of food, medicines, and medical equipment prepared under the supervision of the Financial and Administrative Affairs Department at the Diwan of HH the Crown Prince.

# \$4 million support to Palestinian uprising

THE head of Al Munasara (support) Charity Committee for Palestine and Lebanon of the Social Reform Society Ahmad Al Falah, said the committee sent \$4 million for supporting the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories.

Half the sum was sent to support the uprising and the other half for supporting and financing some charity projects there.

The committee organised several seminars, lectures and cultural weeks as well as charity bazaars to support the uprising (intifada).

It now wants to collect KD 1 million to offer relief for Palestinian people in the occupied lands. The project aims at establishing suitable productive projects to employ Palestinian unemployed workers, to stop immigration from Palestine as well as to support needy Palestinian families. The projects aims at supporting Palestinians who are injured or

imprisoned as well as families of martyrs and those harmed by Israelis.

### Allocation

He added that a sum of money will be allocated for every martyr's family and for every injured person and prisoners in occupied Palestine.

The committee supports the health and human centres in West Bank and Gaza Strip beside establishing new ones.

Falah pointed out the committee will organise the Third Palestine Week from 26 December 1989 to 1st January 1990 at the fair grounds in Mishref.

The week will include a charity bazaar, a book and photography exhibit as well as an artistic festival. The returns of the week will be allocated to support the intifada, he said.

He added that the first week was organised in 1987 and second last year.

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The seminars are scheduled as follows:

### Seminar 1:

"Boundary Element Method and its Application to Fluid Mechanics, Temperature and Potential Problems"  
Sunday, Nov. 26, 1989, 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

### Seminar 2:

"Boundary Element Method and its Application to Stress Analysis Problems"  
Tuesday, Nov. 28, 1989, 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Both seminars are held in the conference room of College of Engineering & Petroleum, Building 5 Kh — second floor, Khaldiya.

All those interested are cordially invited.

Al termine della sua missione in Kuwait, l'Ambasciatore d'Italia sara' lieto di salutare i connazionali all' "Holiday Inn Hotel" domenica 26 novembre dalle 18 alle 20.

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## EDITORIALS

## ARAB TIMES

## Thought for today

No trumpets sound when the important decisions of our life are made. Destiny is made known silently — Agnes Demille, US choreographer (1908—).

## Thatcher being tested

## Challenge to leadership

LONDON, (Reuters): At one of the most difficult times in a decade of power, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's authority looks set to be tested for the first time from within the ranks of the ruling Conservative Party.

With the government trailing a resurgent opposition by 10 to 13 per centage points in opinion polls, fractious Conservatives on the liberal wing of their party fear Thatcher's autocratic leadership style could cost the party the next election.

They plan to test the strength of Thatcher's party support by mounting a leadership challenge less than a month after she recorded a public popularity rating of only 24 per cent, the lowest recorded by any prime minister in 50 years of opinion surveys.

Conservative Party rules dictate that within 28 days of the opening of a new session of parliament, there will be an election for party leader.

## Toppled

Since she toppled Edward Heath in 1974, beating better-known candidates, Thatcher has never been challenged and her re-election has been a formality.

Any challenge this year will come initially from a "stalking horse" candidate, a member of parliament with no hope of government preferment who would stand no chance of toppling Thatcher.

But his candidacy, on behalf of unnamed others with long-term designs on the prime minister's official London residence at 10 Downing Street, could open the way for a serious contest if it reveals a serious split in party ranks.

Talk of a challenge has been rife since the Conservatives were humiliated in June's elections to the European parliament, their first national poll defeat under Thatcher.

Speculation increased after the July cabinet reshuffle, in which Sir Geoffrey Howe — one of the party's most popular figures — was abruptly removed from the foreign office.

It was brought to the boil in recent weeks by Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson's resignation, concern over Thatcher's autocratic style, her avowed intent to fight another general election still a likely two years away, a faltering economy and growing Conservative unpopularity with the public.

## Contest

As the new parliamentary session began on Tuesday, ministers and party managers braced themselves for a contest which they fear could damage the party.

Maverick MP Sir Anthony Meyer, a 69-year-old critic of Thatcher's attitude towards European unity, said on Wednesday he would stand as a "burnt offering" against her if no other candidate came forward.

He added: "It is my expectation and my hope that somebody much better qualified than I will come forward as challenger."

The point of such a stand would be to see how many of the 375 Conservative members of parliament vote against Thatcher, abstain or spoil their papers in the secret ballot.

An anti-Thatcher vote of less than 30 would be dismissed by party managers as insignificant.

A rebellion in the range of 50 to 70 would damage the prime minister's standing, intensify pressure on her to stand down before the next election and could trigger a full-scale leadership election in which heavyweight contender's would stand.

They would certainly include the disaffected Howe, now party leader in the House of Commons with the titular position of deputy prime minister, and Michael Heseltine, who walked out of Thatcher's cabinet in 1986 and said this week he would regard it as a "huge honour" to be elected party leader.

## Election

The 1922 committee, which represents "the backbench" Conservative members of the House of Commons who do not hold a government position, is expected to call for nominations by the end of November, setting an election for Dec 5 or 12.

Party chairman Kenneth Baker and party managers are working hard behind the scenes to minimise any challenge, pointing out that despite Thatcher's current low standing in the opinion polls she is a proven winner with a record three general elections to her name.

Reflecting that position, the pro-government Times newspaper said in an editorial that a "stalking horse" contest could only be divisive to the conservatives and help the opposition Labour Party.

"It must be viewed simply as an exercise in purposeless malevolence... it is a manoeuvre which would damage not only Thatcher but the whole Tory party," it added.

Columnist Peter Jenkins wrote in the Independent: "There is no clear successor and, were a real leadership contest to open up, it would be bloody and divisive. A new face at the top might help the Conservatives' electoral chances after 10 years of Thatcher, an unseemly power struggle would not."

## TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1542 — Scots under King James V are routed by Britain at battle of Solway Moss.
- 1568 — Inquiry into conduct of Mary Queen of Scots repents at Westminster.
- 1758 — British forces capture Senegal.
- 1875 — Britain buys 176,602 shares in Suez Canal from Khedive of Egypt.
- 1911 — Chinese revolutionaries bomb Nanking.
- 1965 — General Joseph Mobutu deposes President Joseph Kasavubu in the Congo.
- 1967 — More than 65 people perish in Colombia town after eating bread contaminated by an insecticide.
- 1972 — Labour Party in New Zealand sweeps into power in unexpected victory in general elections.
- 1973 — Greece's President George Papadopoulos is ousted in military coup.
- 1975 — South American country of Suriname is granted independence from the Netherlands.
- 1977 — US General Assembly condemns Israel for occupation of Arab lands, with four votes against the resolution cast by Israel, United States, Canada and El Salvador.
- 1978 — Iran Army spokesman says Shah's forces will "mercilessly" crush new street protests.
- 1987 — Four gunmen seeking to disrupt forthcoming general election are killed by neighbourhood vigilantes in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.
- 1988 — Radical students and Buddhist monks battle riot police in Seoul, South Korea, demanding arrest of former President Chun Doo-Hwan for corruption.



Lebanese policemen check two destroyed cars of assassinated Lebanon's new president Rene Mouawad's bodyguards. Mouawad (inset) was killed with 15 others when a massive explosion ripped through his convoy in Muslim west Beirut on Wednesday. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Lebanon back on the brink of abyss

## Spectre of fighting rises

NICOSIA, Cyprus, (AP): Lebanon is back on the brink of the abyss again following the assassination of President Rene Mouawad as he struggled to put together a government of national reconciliation to end 14 years of bloodshed.

Mouawad's death in a bomb explosion on Wednesday, only 17 days after he was elected, raised the spectre of a new outbreak of fighting between the Syrians and Christian leader Gen. Michel Aoun.

The bombing also underlined the dangers involved in trying to achieve peace in this deeply divided country that has become the proxy battleground for Middle East powers, who have exploited the conflict for their own ends.

Clearly, Mouawad's assassination was aimed at torpedoing the Arab League-brokered peace agreement endorsed by Lebanon's parliament in the Saudi Arabian mountain resort of Taif on Oct 24.

That agreement now hangs in the balance and could suffer the same fate as earlier attempts to end the bloodletting.

Mouawad's predecessor, Amin Gemayel, scuttled a Syrian-brokered peace treaty signed by Lebanon's main militia chieftains in December 1985 because he believed that it stripped Maronite Christians of the political power they have held since independence from France in 1943.

Lebanon's leaders have never been able to end the bloodshed, partly because of the deep divisions that have fragmented the country, partly because the civil war is a cauldron of several conflicts and inextricably linked to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

If the supporters of the Taif accord do not move swiftly, elect another president acceptable to the Syrians, the main power brokers in Lebanon, as well as the country's Muslims and Christians, the rapprochement effort could run out of steam.

Wednesday's bombing marked another atrocity in the unending cycle of violence that has savaged

Lebanon since 1975 and left more than 150,000 people killed and 1 million — a quarter of the population — displaced.

More than a score of people were killed with Mouawad, a Maronite Catholic who has long preached reconciliation, when his assassin detonated a remote control bomb containing an estimated 250 kgs (550 pounds) of explosives in a crowded street as his motorcade passed.

There was, as usual, no claim of responsibility. But there's no shortage of suspects in the murky world of Lebanese and Arab politics.

There are many in Lebanon, and beyond, who oppose the Arab League-brokered peace agreement endorsed by Lebanon's parliament.

The Syrians, who backed the Taif accord, quickly pointed the finger at Aoun, the agreement's main opponent.

Syrian President Hafez Assad was clearly referring to him when he declared in Damascus that the atrocity "should be a new impulse to double the support for Lebanon so that it can destroy the evil in its nest and in order for the Lebanese to avenge themselves against those... who wanted with their crime to hit Lebanon's unity and prolong the suffering of the Lebanese."

Assad did not elaborate. But his remarks indicated that the Syrians may use Mouawad's assassination to justify a move against Aoun.

Israel's chief of staff, Lieut Gen. Dan Shomron, said in Tel Aviv that the Syrians are likely to attack Aoun.

Israeli analyst Yossi Olmert noted: "The losers are the Syrians, and those who gained are all those who think that an elected president in Lebanon would be bad for their interests."

But an Arab analyst, speaking on condition of anonymity, noted that these include Syria and Israel.

"A unified Lebanese government would be able to ask the Syrians to leave, which the Syrians don't want to do. If the Syrians went, then the Israelis would have to get out of the border enclave they occupy in south Lebanon," he noted.

Aoun has branded the Taif agreement a betrayal because it does not guarantee the withdrawal of Syria's 40,000 troops from Lebanon.

Aoun fought a six-month "war of liberation" against the Syrians until an Arab League ceasefire took hold Sept 22. More than 900 people were killed and nearly 3,000 wounded in some of the fiercest artillery battles of the civil war.

He considers the Syrians an occupying force. They intervened in Lebanon in 1976 to back the Christians against Muslim and leftist forces, although they later turned on the Christians.

Their intervention was later endorsed by the Arab League who gave the Syrians a peacekeeping mandate. Aoun claims the Syrians abrogated that mandate by openly siding against the Christians.

With Mouawad dead, one of Aoun's major rivals has been eliminated.

But the Iranian-backed Shiite Muslim Hezbollah, and their mentors in Tehran, also oppose the peace accord.

Hezbollah charges that it ignores the demands of their 1.2 million-strong Shiites, the largest in Lebanon, for more political power.

Druze Muslim chieftain Walid Jumblatt has grudgingly gone along with the agreement, prodded in no uncertain terms by Syria. But he has made it clear he does not consider the agreement good far enough in curbing Maronite privileges.

Jumblatt's father, Kamal, was assassinated in March 1977 in the Druze stronghold in the Chouf mountains that rise above Beirut.

The assassins were never found, but many Lebanese blamed the Syrians. The elder Jumblatt had been severely critical of Syrian policy in Lebanon.

## Summit at sea

## Gorbachev to seek US understanding

MOSCOW, (UPI): Beseated by a bankrupt economy and restive Soviet republics, Mikhail Gorbachev will plumb the waters of his shipboard summit with President Bush for trade credits, understanding and patience while he lets his Eastern European empire dissolve.

But the Soviet leader envisions himself as more than a leader dismantling an outmoded structure in East Europe. Rather, he views himself as a master builder erecting a new European order, his "common European home."

"The only other time in recent history that two leaders met on a warship was when President Franklin Roosevelt and Winston Churchill signed the Atlantic Charter in (August) 1941 off Newfoundland," a Western diplomat said.

"The Russians like symbols very much, so I do not think it is coincidental that Gorbachev and Bush chose to meet at sea," the diplomat said. "It is a direct allusion to the Roosevelt-Churchill meeting."

Roosevelt and Churchill, the British Prime Minister, pledged to build a post-war world with no "aggrandizements, territorial or other... that do not accord with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned."

But when World War II ended in 1945, the Soviet Army, which had been a key allied partner, remained in Eastern Europe and smothered the idea of self-determination behind an iron curtain of one-party communist governments.

Now Gorbachev is letting the captive nations of Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary and Bulgaria and the artificial state of East Germany choose their own futures, even without communist-led governments.

"It is hard to predict what will be the concrete results of the meeting on the waves of the Mediterranean, but maybe we'll see there the symbolic burial of the cold war," Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov said. "After all, the cold war should have been buried long ago."

Beneath the symbolism lies the grim economic facts of the Kremlin's cold war costs of keeping an occupation army in Eastern Europe. There are 380,000 soldiers in East Germany alone.

The Soviet Union is in deep economic trouble. Store shelves are even emptier than in past years, panicked consumers have created new shortages by

hoarding the few basic goods that do reach the shops and a Western plague has infected the government — a budget deficit that now totals \$192 billion.

Politburo conservative Yegor Ligachev opposes the establishment of private property and other radical economic reforms, yet he recently acknowledged that "it will take years" for the Soviet Union to feed itself.

The Kremlin's military spending equals about 15 per cent of the Gross National Product, compared with 6 per cent for the United States. About half of Moscow's total defence outlays goes for manpower. "There is no real military threat from Nato and it makes no sense that the Soviet Union is spending 14 per cent of its GNP for defence," the Western diplomat said.

US senator Sam Nunn, Democrat-Georgia, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, has warned that Gorbachev might turn riverboat gambler during the Dec 2-3 Mediterranean summit and propose that both the United States and Soviet Union withdraw all of their forces from Europe.

The dynamic Gorbachev similarly stunned former President Reagan in Reykjavik, Iceland in 1986 by proposing that all long range nuclear missiles be phased out within 10 years. The summit ended in disarray.

Negotiators for the two superpowers at conventional arms-reduction talks in Vienna are making steady progress toward the goal of cutting the number of Nato and Warsaw Pact forces to about 273,000 men on each side, a major change that would require the Soviets to remove far more soldiers than the Americans.

But the embattled Gorbachev, facing ethnic unrest and nationalist clamour in addition to his economic crisis, may be impatient. Nunn's warning of a grand proposal by the Soviet leader bears close scrutiny.

Sweeping troop reductions would save Gorbachev much more money than any agreement to cut strategic nuclear missiles, allowing him to accelerate his programme of converting the defence sector to civilian production.

The Soviet economy could produce the sorely needed consumer goods sacrificed during the long years of preparing for an invasion that never came. But Gorbachev risks severe criticism from Liga-

chev and other conservative opponents by allowing Moscow's East bloc allies to embark on a path that may lead them to conclude that they alone should determine their relations with the Soviets.

Gorbachev wants understanding from the United States and a hands-off policy matching the Kremlin's new restraint.

"The Soviet Union does not deem it permissible to interfere in the internal affairs of sovereign states, but all others should act likewise," Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze recently told his French counterpart, Roland Dumas.

Western nations "should not offer unsought advice, and, at this complex moment, it is absolutely out of place to make statements that might seem to encourage extremist attitudes," Shevardnadze said.

His first deputy, Alexander Bessmertnykh, summoned the US ambassador to Moscow, Jack Matlock, to protest a recent senate foreign affairs committee resolution on Nagorno-Karabakh, the Transcaucasian enclave that Armenians and Azerbaijanians have been fighting over for 21 months.

"This official document setting forth claims and demands on the Soviet Union is an unceremonious attempt to teach it how, in the view of US authorities, this purely internal matter should be resolved," Matlock was told.

The Baltic republics of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania were free countries between the two world wars and long have chafed under Soviet rule. The United States never has recognized their 1940 folding into the Soviet Union and considers them captive nations on a par with Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

Georgia and the Ukraine, which also were independent for brief periods, also have new independence movements. And nationalists in Moldavia disrupted Revolution Day celebrations Nov 7, forcing the cancellation of the annual parade and chasing the communist leadership from the reviewing stand.

But Gorbachev and Bush likely will spend more time talking about economic ties than about the Soviet Union's complex ethnic problems.

Gorbachev, visiting the largest American trade show ever put on in his country last month, urged US firms to set up shop in the Soviet Union to show the Russians how to work.

## Letters to the editor

## UK voting laws

SIR: I would like to inform British citizens overseas of a change in the voting laws that expands the number of British passport holders able to retain their right of political voice in the UK.

Recently, an Act of Parliament re-evaluated those abroad qualified to appoint a proxy to vote on their behalf in parliamentary and European elections. The result was an expansion of how long one could remain abroad and still retain voting rights — from 5 to 20 years. It has also been extended to those who left the UK before the age of 18, removes the need to declare an intent to return to the UK and provides for Electoral Registration Officers to send annual reminders to overseas electors to make fresh declarations in order to remain registered.

We at the Labour Party want to use this opportunity to broaden the franchise of those who, if not here in body, have an interest in the events occurring back home. The Labour Party supported the change in the House of Commons and welcome the possibilities it offers for the future.

In addition, this expansion in voting rights opens up the opportunities for greater participation by British citizens overseas in the political life of Great Britain.

Britain desperately needs a change. The gloss of the Thatcher years is now fading and the economy in serious trouble. Standards have fallen, services have declined, the crime rate has risen sharply, our roads are choked and our rivers polluted. Britain is divided between north and south, rich and poor. Our economy is in deep trouble and those of you who have been back to Britain recently will know just how much our health service — once the envy of the world — has declined under Mrs Thatcher and her Conservative government.

Only Labour has the policies and the will to meet the challenge on the 1990s.

As part of our campaign to make the Labour Party truly representative of all sections of the community we have embarked upon a national membership drive. We are now inviting all our supporters overseas to join us.

Labour is a truly international party with links in every country. As a Labour Party member overseas, you can count on being a vital link between Labour and other members of your community. If you wish to find out more about us, contact Membership Services, The Labour Party, 150 Walworth Road, London SE17 1JT.

Don't forget to claim your rights as a British citizen, by completing an Overseas Elector's declaration form, obtainable from the Labour Party as above, or your nearest British consulate or diplomatic mission and register to have your views heard on election day.

J.L. Whitty,  
General Secretary,  
British Labour Party.

## May the best team win

SIR: The news that Ireland had beaten Northern Ireland recently by a margin of three goals to all came as pleasant surprise.

This news item warmed the cockles of my heart as it certainly will of many fans of the Irish lads as well as many an Irishman.

It will be refreshing to see this team of young talented and hard working boys in the finals and they certainly deserve better than just qualifying.

In all the years I've followed Ronnie Whelan's games since he joined Liverpool, I've seen hard work, dedication and sportsmanship and he certainly deserves better recognition than at present.

Ireland has a group of persevering and talented boys in Tony Cascarino, Kevin Shedy, John Aldridge, Ray Houghton and Steve Staunton to single out a few and a great part of the credit goes to Jack Charlton for getting together this group of young men into a well knit team.

England's loss has been Ireland's gain! In the forthcoming finals in June 1990 I will certainly be looking forward to seeing Jackie's boys putting up a spirited show for the world to see and prove that a small republic like Ireland can match the talent of nations like Italy, Brazil, Argentina, W. Germany and England.

By way of humble advice, I would like to ask these Irish lads to work together unselfishly, put on their shooting boots and stay undaunted by the hard tackles and rough tactics of some of the intimidating teams particularly in the finals. It is up to Jackie and his lads to make the Irish tricolour much better known than it is at present.

Good luck and may the best team win (and with a little luck it could be Ireland!)

C. Desonza,  
Safat.

ALL letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the edition process for space or other reasons.

## Quote me

"Mr Al Fayed considered it his patriotic duty to buy the item. He has lived here for almost 30 years, his children are British and he feels great loyalty and devotion to this country. He values the story of Harold Michael Cole after Harrods Egyptian-born owner bought Harold Abrahams Olympic medals."

"But I think the potential is there for a very great champion. She's a great tennis player. I think she can be a great champion if she wants to be." — Navratilova on Graf's tennis future.

"I think we did that and once we got the goal, other tactics came into play. My players shifted gears appropriately on the field. Victory gives us the opportunity to go to Italy and test ourselves against the world's heavyweights and 'tability.' — American soccer coach after beating Trinidad and Tobago to clinch a berth for the World Cup.

"We were the outsiders and Stuttgart, being among West Germany's top clubs was a UEFA Cup finalist last year. Still, we showed them we could bite hard." — Answer coach Dini Davidovic after a 1-0 win over VfB Stuttgart.



# ELECTRONICS

AN ARAB TIMES SUPPLEMENT



## VHS vs 8-mm

# Camcorder showdown

By Williams J. Hawkins

AIM and pull the trigger: The result is instant home movies on videotape. That's the promise of camcorders, those all-in-one units that combine a video camera with a video-cassette recorder in a single easy-to-handle package. But determining which model to buy isn't easy because there are competing camcorder formats.

"The battle lines appear to be forming between VHS and a new generation of eight-millimetre machines," says Bob Ridell, General Electric Co.'s marketing manager of audio-video products. Once considered too bulky or too low in picture quality to compete against Beta or VHS-C (a half-size VHS cassette that holds 20 minutes of tape and requires an adapter to be played on a VHS home deck), full-size VHS and 8-mm are the two most common formats, offered by nearly every camcorder maker. What happened?

Full-size VHS camcorders have become smaller and lighter, and 8-mm models, spearheaded by Sony's introduction now produce exceptionally good pictures. To find out how all that was done, I tested models in each format. I also spoke to engineers and makers of both 8-mm and VHS camcorders. I was surprised to learn that despite the format differences, the principal technical change made in these units is head design. But the effects have been dramatically different in each machine. And making a choice between them is now extremely difficult.

**Shades of Shakespeare**  
"Try it yourself," said Tom Rice, department head of Eastman Kodak Co.'s motion-video department, as he handed me the company's new 8-mm MVS camcorder at a recent New York demonstration. Rice pointed to a group of performers in front of us, seven Shakespearean dancers dressed in 17th-century clothing,

complete with instruments of the era. As they danced and sang, I pressed the camcorder's "Record" button.

Using the camera was a snap. I could zoom in on the shot, fade in and out of the scene, or vary intensity with only minor movements of my fingers.

Most recording controls are under the fingers of the right hand, so I could find them quickly and easily by feel. At the moment, however, the most important control to me—after 10 minutes of 17th-century music

a tape. More storage can be obtained by width of the tape (something an 8-mm designer would be loath to do), or by increasing tape speed so information can be spread down the tape. But that would result in an unacceptable loss in recording time. The alternative cure, to pack a denser video signal on the cassette, was more difficult.

"First we had to change from the usual oxide formulation to an all-new metal-particle tape," said Rice. "It's virtually pure iron held in place with a binder."

turing tolerances become much tighter. Tracking accuracy has to be within one or two microns. That's like two wavelengths of light. Doing it in the lab is one thing; doing it in millions of production units is quite another.

Although picture quality is most important in the camcorder, 8-mm backers are stressing the audio reproduction should also be considered. Rice replaced my videotape with another and again pressed the "Play" button. No image appeared on the screen, but the speakers thundered, filling the room with music.

"That's a stereo digital recording," said Rice. "Besides video recording, eight-millimetre systems are capable of being used as a digital audio tape recorder, and each cassette holds up to twelve hours of music. Try that on a VHS machine."

**VHS compatibility**  
"We're appealing to people who are comfortable with VCRs," says Bruce Huber, vice president of marketing for Zenith Electronics Corp.'s consumer-electronics division. "We found that people who buy camcorders already own a VCR, and eighty per cent of those VCRs use the VHS format."

VHS camcorder makers stress that picture quality and compatibility between VCRs are most important. "It goes beyond your own home machine," says Huber. "Just try swapping an eight-millimetre tape with a friend or renting an eight-millimetre movie."

Because of the larger tape, VHS machines have built-in high-quality picture reproduction. "Our problem" says George Hrbek, director of video operations and engineering for Zenith, "was maintaining the home VHS format for picture performance while at the same time reducing the head drum for small size and less weight."

VHS camcorders use a head drum that's nearly half the size of the drum used in standard VHS recorders. To maintain compatibility, the drum contains four heads (two more than standard VHS), spins at higher speed (2,700 rpm versus 1,800), and has a 270-degree threading angle as opposed to the standard 180-degrees. "Although the drum is smaller, the writing speed is identical to standard VHS," says Hrbek. "It's totally compatible."

The smaller, lighter drum design has had a snowball effect, cutting pounds and inches off the new camcorders. "All the associated deck components become smaller and lighter," says Hrbek. That cuts weight, of course, but it also means that they don't need excessive support either. Result: Even the weight of the all-steel transport base required on earlier models has been shed. "The new models use aluminium," Hrbek says.

Although new VHS camcorders like Zenith 700 and RCA

## Money-saving tip-top cookers

WITH today's hurried lifestyles people are turning to well-designed gadgets that speed up the cooking process while maintaining the quality, taste and appearance of food. A host of tabletop cooking equipment is now available, but makesure you choose the most practical price for your own requirements.

**Mini ovens and cookers**  
A table top oven is an economical option for small households and for those who only roast, bake or casserole occasionally and in small quantities. Being small they heat up so much quicker than standard

steam. This method is believed to preserve flavour colour moisture and nutrients more efficiently than conventional cooking, and because it is such a rapid process can give up to 40 per cent saving in energy. A compartment in the oven must be filled with water prior to cooking, and this is then converted into steam as the oven heats up. Steaming alone will not crisp or brown food so both models have radiant heat to do this.

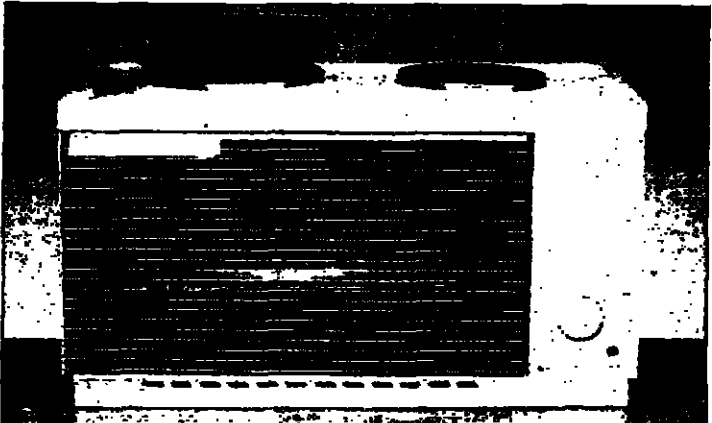
Some busy kitchens may benefit from a small independent hot plate.

Another interesting develop-

ventional ovens and therefore may take a bit of getting used to. They work by generating short electro-magnetic waves which set up frictional energy in water, fat and also sugar. The microwaves are reflected by the metal lining of the oven. They pass through glass, ceramic, plastic and paper which make ideal microwave cookware.

select a power setting suitable for the food and press start. Special steam sensors inside the oven cavity monitor the temperature and pressure as the food cooks, and automatically switch off when the food is ready.

The main disadvantage with microwave ovens is that they do not brown or crisp food. Clever garnishing can improve the



Oven with grill and hotplates in a compact and economical unit.

ovens, but cooking times are generally about the same. Most are supplied with one, two or three oven racks, depending on oven capacity, and baking tray. They are generally electric although a few such as the Vanessa from Flavel, are fuelled by gas.

Tabletop cookers fall into three main categories — compact ovens. Ovens with integral grills, and ovens with both integral grills and hotplates.

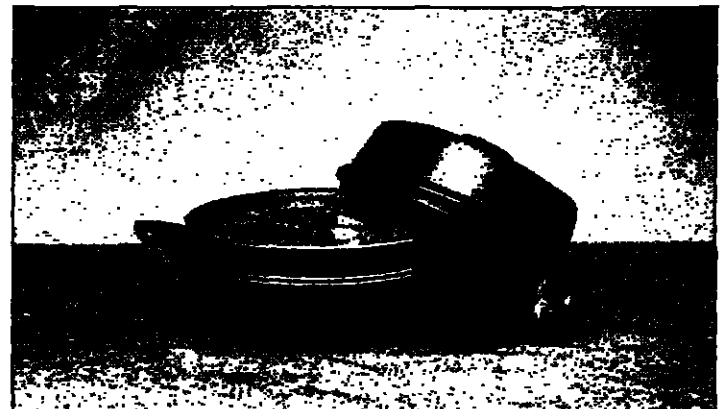
Some of the newest mini ovens feature advanced facilities found on large standard ovens, such as fan assisted cooking, rotisseries, self-basters and timers.

Compact ovens can cook by

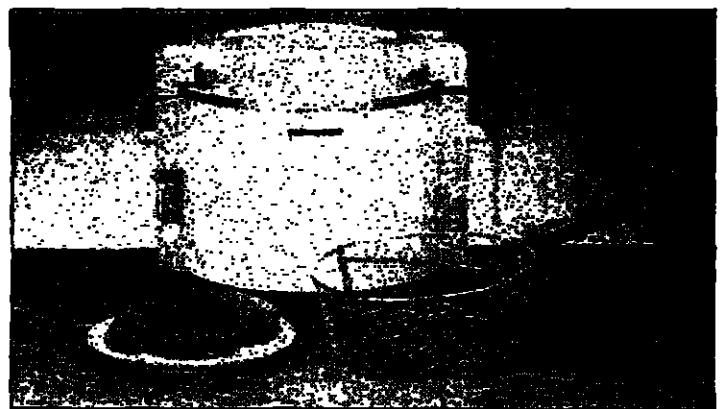
ment is the thermal cooker. Working on the traditional hay box principle this cooker is simply a thermal jacket, into which heated casserole dish can be placed and let to cook in its own heat all day or evening if you wish.

**Microwave ovens**  
Microwave ovens cook food quickly and economically and also save time when defrosting frozen food. They don't need to be pre-heated and cooking times are shorter than with a conventional oven, giving as much as 75 per cent savings on energy.

Microwaves cook in a completely different way from con-



The versatile multicooker.



Thermostatically controlled deep-fat fryer.

Microwave ovens are generally set on timers, according to the weight and type of food being cooked, and getting used to this system can take practice. New Auto Sensor oven, however, is designed to take all the guesswork out of timing. You simply

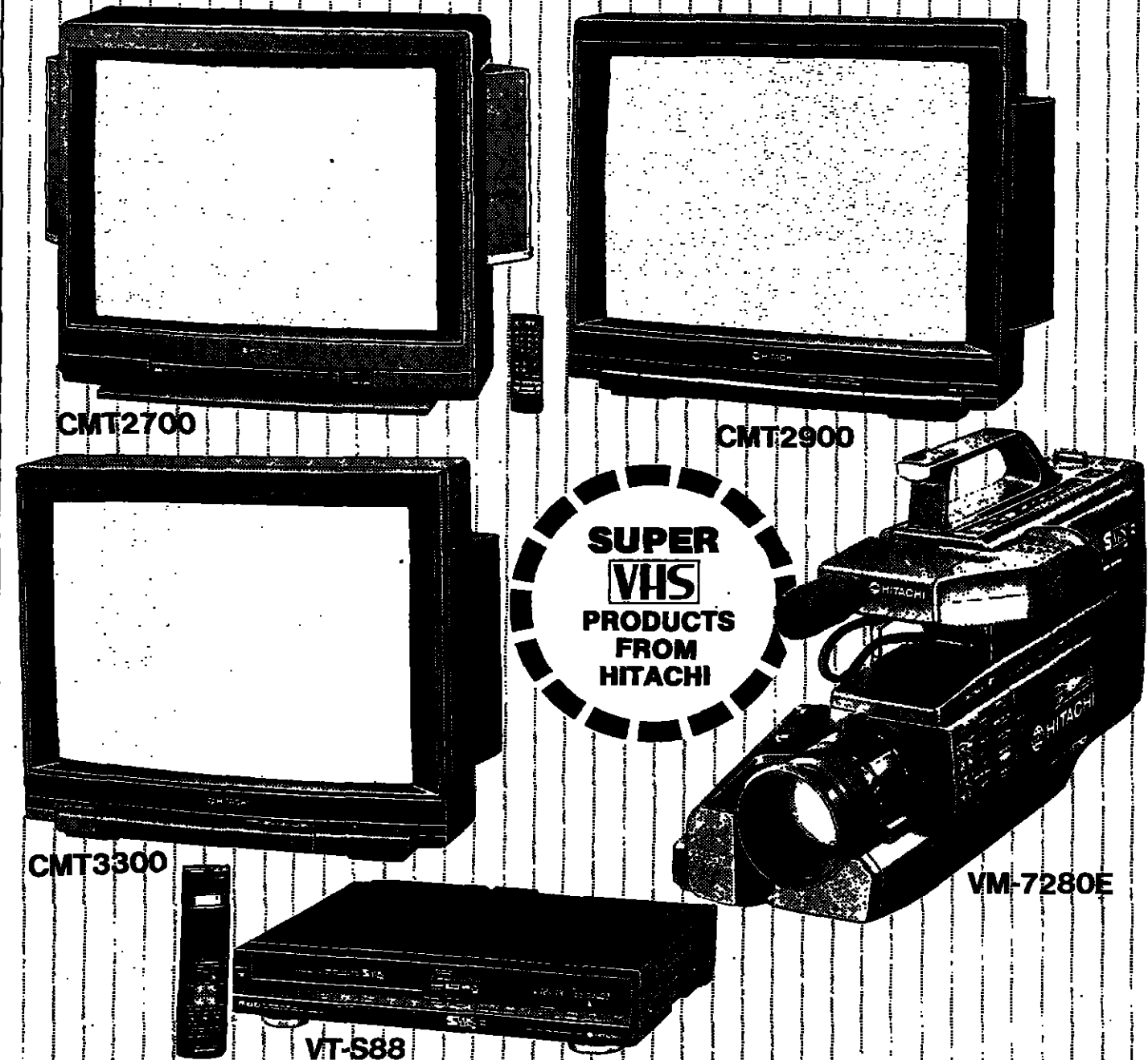
appearance of some foods, others can be browned in a special browning dish or in a conventional oven or grill before or after cooking. A few microwave ovens incorporate their own browning element, but a more effective

(Continued on Page 13)

## Sound and vision at it's best!

### From HITACHI

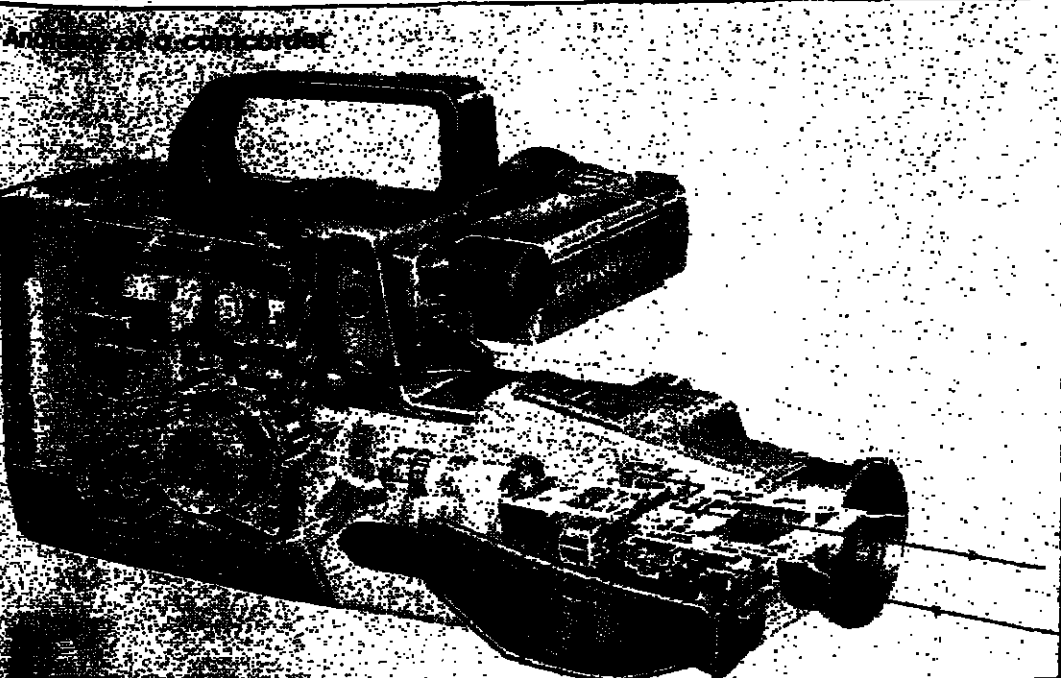
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**HITACHI**



Space is wasted in this 8mm Camcorder, a careful blend of intricate optics and electronics.

(Continued on Page 13)



# Simple ground rules while buying a Hi-Fi system

By Jonathan Kettle

KNOWING how to choose a good dealer and how to get the best service from him is 90 per cent of the art of successful buying.

Many of the horror stories we hear about are the result of simple misconceptions about dealers, the sort of service they offer and the ground rules operating in the better quality stores these days.

In effect there is a whole series of dos and don'ts when it comes to buying a system. Here are some tips for making sure you end up at the right dealer and choosing the right equipment. You may think some of the points are a simple matter of common sense. I certainly hope so. With a bit of luck, however, you won't have thought of all of them.

## 1. Hi-Fi magazines

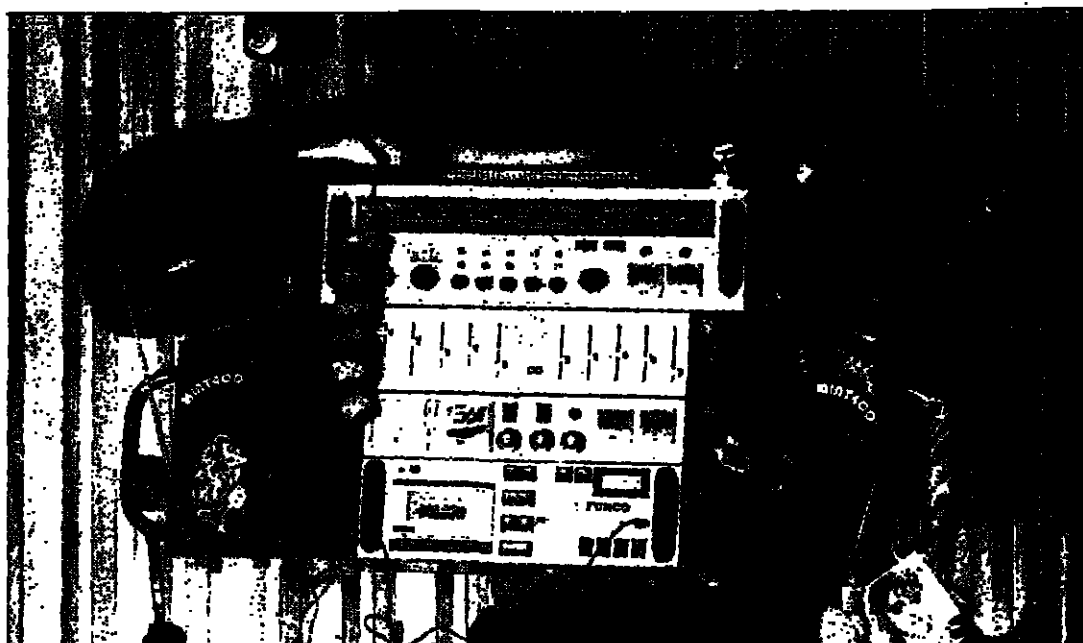
As good a place to start as any. Likely as not reading about Hi-Fi will come before you first taste of what hi-fi can do. Do use Hi-Fi magazines to help sort out a shortlist of products to go and audition. Despite what some dealers might have you believe, magazine reviewers are (with very occasional exceptions) independent, fair-minded, impartial critics. Don't treat Hi-Fi magazines as bibles containing holy scripture. No matter how experienced or objective a reviewer is, his judgement is ultimately a personal opinion.

## 2. Budgeting

Do set your budget by allocating proportionately more on your source components (turntable or CD player for example) than your speakers. Remember the old saying: garbage in/garbage out. Don't fall into the trap of spending too much on the speakers. Just because the sound comes out of them doesn't mean the sound comes from them.

## 3. Accessories

Do remember to allow enough cash, for things like speakers standards supports for your CD player, amplifier, cassette deck or turntable. If you are spending KD300 on a system, another KD100 on a support will have a profound effect on the performance of the system. Don't go overboard on accessories. Speaker stands costing more than the speakers are not cost-effective. And there are plenty of



Choices, choices, choices!

CD and record care devices that offer little tangible benefit.

## 4. Dealer selection

Do think carefully about the type of dealer you want to buy from. Hi-Fi is a luxury. Why spend hundreds of dinars on a system without first hearing it properly? Shop around and gauge the attitude of the staff at two or three shops. Then make an appointment at the most helpful and friendly store. Don't buy from a shop going under unless you're sure you know exactly what you're letting yourself in for. End of line, discontinued, rejected mail order equipment and badge engineered Hi-Fi may cost less in the short term but you could regret buying it if it goes wrong within weeks of the purchase.

## 5. Demonstrations

Do ask for either a single speaker demonstration, or preferably a home demonstration of the system you're considering. Don't buy after a casual audition in a shop full of milling people. The ambient noise and distractions will be far too off-putting. If all you want is a system for background music you might as well stick with the ghetto blaster and forget serious Hi-Fi.

## 6. Records

Do take your own records along to any demonstration. You'll have a point of reference

by which to judge the equipment. Don't let the salesman convince you your record is no good without pushing him to show what he means. If his demonstration records sound worse than yours, don't listen to his suggestions. Make your own mind up.

## 7. Listening

If you are not sure what to listen for when choosing Hi-Fi let the salesman guide you. As long as you know what music you like you're on safe ground. If none of the equipment sounds good Do say so, and ask the salesman to demonstrate the shop's best system. If it still sounds not good then you've gone to the wrong shop. Don't feel it's your fault if you can't hear what the salesman is trying to demonstrate. Remember the onus is on him to sell you the equipment. Don't pre-judge the demonstration by accepting a rave review of a product in preference to your own judgement. A sympathetic dealer will back your judgement if he senses your lack of confidence and one easily swayed by the reviews.

## 8. Decision time

Do make absolutely sure you are happy with the sound. Relax, convince yourself you like the sound and don't be afraid to say you don't like anything. There's nothing worse than failing to mention nagging doubts. Don't ask the dealers what he thinks

about the merits of a product. Good dealers are trained not to tell you what they think; it's enough to know that they wouldn't stock the product if they didn't think it was competitive.

## 9. Back-up service

Do check on stocks, delivery and installation. You don't want to be lumbered with a long waiting time if you marginally prefer one product to another. Check with the dealers what companies are like on spares, reliability and consistency. Ask if you suspect a product is incapable of maintaining its performance, without needing constant attention. You may be happy with the hi-fi equivalent of a fine tuned Ferrari or you may prefer the predictability of a Volvo. If you're still wavering about whether a product is the right choice don't pay money for it without first checking if the dealer will provide an alternative if things don't work out. Many of the better dealers allow you a grace period, sometimes up to 30 days, during which you can decide if a foible is anything more serious.

## 10. Guarantees

Do keep the receipt and guarantee card when you buy any equipment. Dealers are legally bound to repair product that develops a fault as long as you can show that the fault occurred within the warranty period and that it was not caused

through operational negligence. Don't buy from a dealer who puts the responsibility for repair onto the manufacturer. He's evading his legal responsibility.

## 11. Hi-Fi shows

Do go to shows if you ever have the opportunity to see the latest product launches and find out, direct from the manufacturers how and why their equipment is made. Don't buy at shows. They're notoriously unreliable venues for allowing demonstrations of good Hi-Fi. The acoustics of a hotel bedroom are usually very poor. Use shows as another way of shortlisting product for further evaluation.

## 12. Facilities

Do plan for the possible future addition of alternative source products. Don't buy a minimalist amplifier if you plan to add a cassette deck and make tape to tape copies. If you buy an

amplifier without a tape monitor button you won't be able to add a three head tape deck later without losing its facility to monitor recordings as they're being made.

## 13. Recordings

Do listen critically to recordings. Hi-Fi equipment can be blamed for deficiencies in the quality of records or CDs. But always remember that there are many ways of making a valid recording. For example, piano recordings vary depending on the type of piano, the pianist, the size and type of recording venue and the way in which the recording has been engineered. There is no single correct way of making a piano sound on record. Don't fall for simplistic philosophising from incompetent and bigoted salesmen who claim that only one type of recording on one record label represents Hi-Fi

recorded sound at its best.

## 14. Technical

Do keep technological developments in their correct perspective. Stay sceptical about extravagant technical claims made by manufacturers for their products. How many parallel-tracking turntables are collectors' items? Don't fall foul of the numbers game. All technical measurements are ultimately subjective. You can't even rely on a sample specification such as watts power output to tell you how loud an amplifier will go. Some 20 watt amplifiers sound for more powerful than other 100 watt designs.

## 15. A/B comparisons

Do watch out for loaded demonstrations. Most good dealers will take care to equalise the loudness for different sensitivity cartridges. Less scrupulous dealers will play one

product louder, longer or second in order to put pressure on you to prefer the one they want to sell. Don't let dealers get away with this unfair practice. Insist that you are left to make your own choice after you've had the chance to play around with the equipment informally. Just because a salesman adjusts the volume between demos, don't assume he's fiddling the comparison.

## 16. Practicalities

Do check the delivery time, available finishes and ease of use of the equipment. Insist on being shown all the operational aspects of the equipment. Good connections will show you the interconnects too. It all helps to increase your confidence in the product or highlight doubts about the construction or ease of use of the equipment.

## Once a Hi-Fi, now a two-channel stereo time

By Barry Fox

BEFORE the Sixties, most hi-fi systems were mono or monophonic. Stereo, short for stereophony, is now synonymous with hi-fi—wrongly so, because there are plenty of stereo systems which are decidedly lo-fi.

In life we hear sound from all directions. It would need an infinity of microphones and an infinity of loudspeakers to capture and reproduce this. Fortunately, the human ears and brain can be fooled into hearing stereo, from two microphones, two sound channels and a pair of loudspeakers.

The first stereo system, demonstrated in public in 1881, was for transmission, not recording.

French engineer Clement Ader was trying to improve the telephone. At the Paris Electrical Exhibition, Ader spread 80 telephone microphones across the front of the stage at the Paris Opera and connected them by wires to telephone earpieces in the Palais de l'Industrie a mile away. Visitors to the exhibition queued to put a telephone to each ear and listen to the sound being

transmitted live from the opera stage.

"The sound took on a special character of relief and localisation," wrote one reporter, enthusing that M Ader had discovered "a new acoustic effect." What Ader had discovered was binaural stereo. It has been reinvented many times since then—most recently as Hugo Zucarelli's much publicised Holophonic.

The listener's ears hear a replica of the live sound field picked up by two mikes. Ideally the microphones are placed in the ears of an imitation (or real human) head. Hence "dummy head" binaural stereo recording. The results are impressive but only when listening on headphones.

In the 1930s, the Chicago Science Museum ran demonstration, sponsored by Bell Labs, of dummy head reproduction. Museum visitors wore headphones and heard an announcer in a transparent soundproof booth talking into a dummy head. Half-way through, each listener heard an unfamiliar voice whispering in their left ear. "Could you please move a little

to the right, you are blocking my view," said the voice. Like a field of corn every visitor, imagining that they were blocking the view of the listener behind, moved to the right. What they were hearing was the voice of a Bell Labs employee talking close into the ear microphone of the dummy head.

Binaural reproduction can only be made to work with loudspeakers if they are arranged so that the sound fires direct into the listeners' ears like a giant pair of headphones, or if the sound fed to the loudspeakers is doctored for listening at one tightly defined point in the room. This is as inconvenient and anti-social as headphone listening.

The first serious attempt at recreating a stereo effect with loudspeakers, and no inconvenience, for the listener, was made by Bell Labs in America in the early 1930s. The conductor Leopold Stokowski helped with the tests.

Bell sent a stereo signal across country, down telephone lines, using the "the curtain of sound" technique; a wall of microphones in front of the sound source feeds a matching wall of

loudspeakers in front of an audience of listeners.

The apparently impossible trick was first performed by Alan Blumlein while he was working for EMI in the early Thirties. Instead of fighting the problem inherent in loudspeaker reproduction, namely that each of the listener's ears hears sound from each loudspeaker, he took advantage of it.

A crossed pair of directional microphones picks up a spread of different sound intensities. When the sound from the mikes is replayed through a pair of loudspeakers angled at round 60 degrees to the listener, the ears and brain are fooled into hearing a spread of sound.

This leaves the question of how to record the two channels of sound. On tape and film it is easy. The soundtrack area is split down the middle into two narrower tracks. Blumlein recorded 35mm stereo film tests this way in the mid Thirties. Bell made some binaural stereo recordings in the Thirties, but used two microphones and two grooves on the same side of the disc—one groove started towards the centre and one towards the edge.

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# VHS VS 8-mm

(Continued from Page 11)

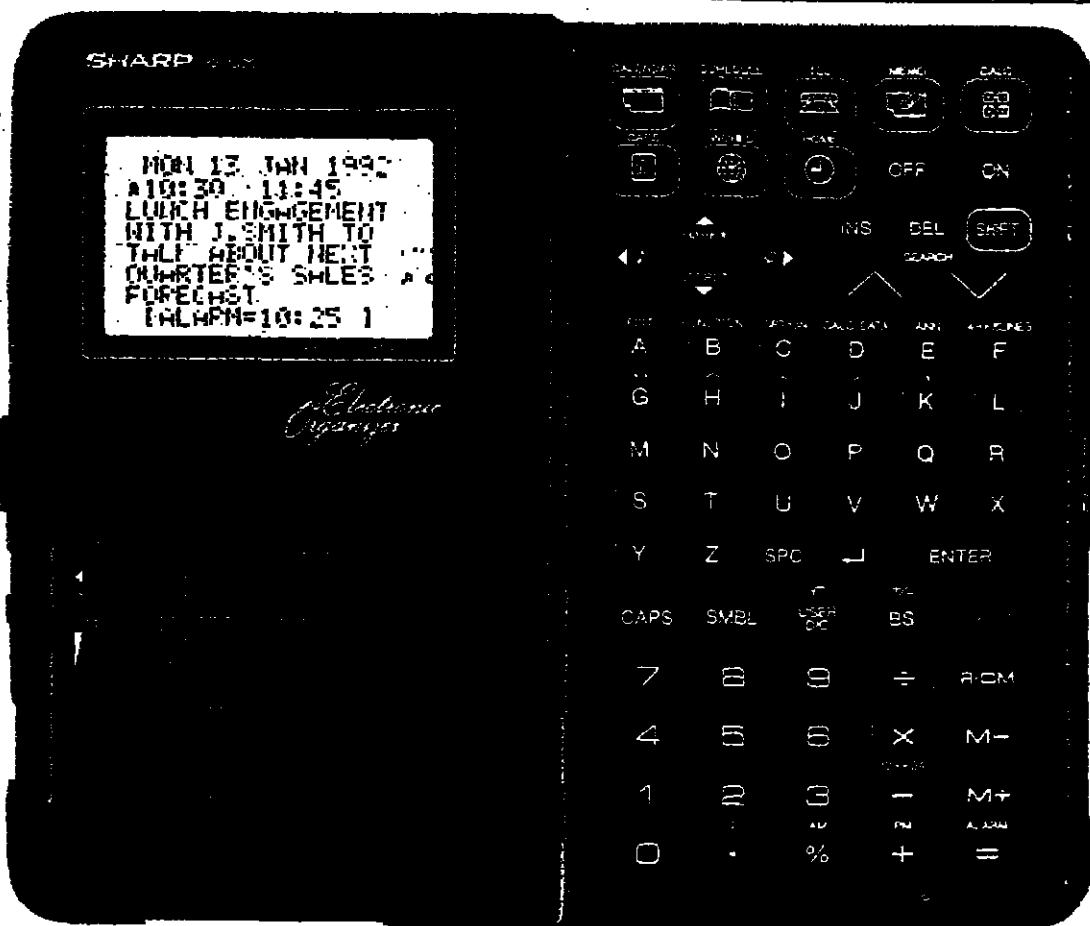
ProWonder I tried are still heavier and larger than 8-mm units, I found that the small difference meant little. They are comfortable and easy to use. And, of course, picture quality is excellent.

So how do you choose? "If you don't own a home system and all you want to do is make movies," suggests Bob Ridell of GE, maker of both VHS and 8-mm format camcorders, "the smaller eight-millimetre camcorder is for you. But if you have a home VCR, compatibility is extremely important, and you should choose VHS."

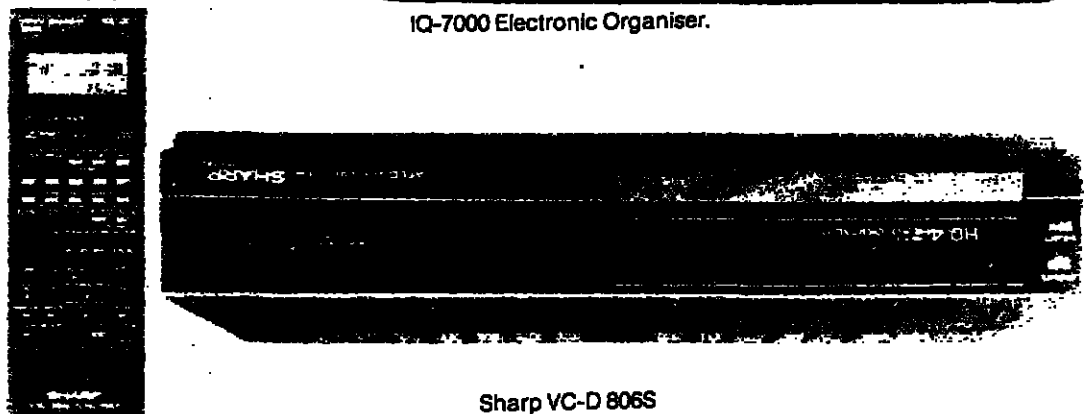
And for the millions of people still on the fence about home video? Ridell sides with VHS. "The tapes are cheaper, and prerecorded tapes are available."

Of course, in time, those reasons can change with the acceptance of 8-mm machines. (Paramount will release the first 8-mm prerecorded movie shortly.) And adds Ridell: "Basically, there is no significant difference between VHS and eight-millimetre. The picture quality from both types exceeds the capability of a typical TV, so you won't see any difference. And the sizes (of the machines) are coming close enough together so you won't feel any difference."

Translation: If the battle between VHS and 8-mm camcorders has just begun, it will be a long war.



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- \* Schedule book
- \* Clock
- \* World clock
- \* Telephone directory
- \* Memo pad, and
- \* 10-digit calculator

The IQ-7000, accompanied by the optional IC card can manage time/expense, thesaurus dictionary, and eight language translator. More IC cards that will gradually be released on the market will exponentially expand the IQ-7000's application.

Furthermore the IQ-7000 can form a network with a personal computer or another electronic organiser. All the information can be printed out or stored by connecting the IQ-7000 to a printer or cassette recorder.

### Microwaves

In 1962 the Sharp corporation became the first maker in Japan to introduce mass production for microwave ovens. And in August 1989, Sharp's aggregate total production throughout the world reached the 20 million unit mark.

Among the advanced functions now included in the new microwave ovens are:

- \* The innovative turntable
- \* Weight sensor
- \* Absolute humidity sensor
- \* Micro-computerised control
- \* Rotisserie system, and
- \* Inverter operation.

Sharp has introduced the R-9H10 sensor convection microwave oven which gives mouth-watering results. Compau Cook and Sensor Cook automatically cook a variety of foods, taking the guesswork out. And finally the Auto Touch control, Memory Cooking makes oven programming relatively easy. All Sharp microwave ovens must first pass in-house safety standards that are significantly stricter than those of most national standards before they enter into production and marketing.

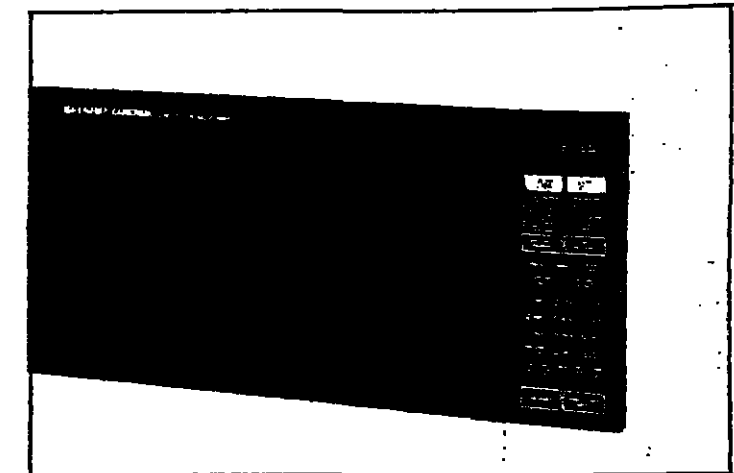
By international agreement, the leakage of microwaves from a microwave oven cannot exceed 10m W/cm<sup>2</sup> at a distance of 5cm from the oven. The amount of radiation energy from the sun reaching the earth surface ranges from 6-100 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>.

### Television

Sharp ensures that TV viewing is not only as more as comfortable and enjoyable as possible but that it is a complete sensory experience as well. The big 85cm (33") screen gives a crisp clear picture. The 22-system capability gives viewing options the world over. The picture tube reduces the eye-strain effects which improves image reproduction and delivers



Above: 22 system 85cm (33") colour TV.  
Below: convection microwave oven



a contrast ratio of approx. 65% for a rich and true colour spectrum. The solar SHOTVISION, the solar powered remote control unit is

powered by ordinary light and eliminates the bother and expense of changing batteries. These products are available at Messilah Trading Co.

## Tip-top cookers

(Continued from Page 11)

solution is to choose a combination model.

These offer a choice of conventional or fan cooking, microwave cooking or a combination of the two models. Some models, also have a grill element which can be used separately or in conjunction with the microwave power.

### Multicookers and woks

An electric fry pan or multicooker looks rather like a high-sided skillet, and incorporates a

thermostatic heat control probe which can be easily removed when the cooker needs to be cleaned. Multicookers generally have non-stick linings and can be used for a variety of cooking techniques. Manufacturers include Tower, asona and Pifco.

Woks are generally used for stir-frying, but they also suit for deep-fat frying, braising and steaming. The wok was invented by the Chinese as a fuel-saving cooking pot and electric ones follow this same principle. The

characteristic bowl shape makes a work both versatile and economical to use, and the high heat settings cook food rapidly so that flavour and vitamins are retained.

### Deep-Fat fryers

Frying food in a pan of hot oils can be both messy and smelly, and also dangerous if not correctly supervised. An electric deep-fat fryer, however, has special carbon filters to reduce lingering cooking smells, and is thermostatically controlled.

Most electric deep-fat fryers have a neon light which indicates when the correct cooking temperature has been reached. This ensures that food is sealed as soon as it is placed in the pan to retain flavours and nutrients.

Many deep-fat fryers have nonstick interiors for easy cleaning. With some models you can raise the wire cooking basket with the lid closed so that you can shake off excess fat without making too much mess.

Fryers are available in a variety of sizes to suit a range of needs from mini-fryers with 1 litre capacity right up to family-sized designs of around 2.5 litre. Slow cookers can be used for a variety of dishes including soups, casseroles, roasts and milk puddings. They are extremely economical, using only as much electricity as a light bulb, and because operating temperatures are low they can be safely left on unattended without fear of sticking or burning. They are available in a range of different capacities — from around 1.5 litre to 3.7 litre.

One of the most useful features to look for is an automatic setting which rapidly heats up the cooker (to kill any bacteria present in the food) then automatically adjusts the temperature to a lower setting for slow simmering. Models with one or more heat settings allow food to be cooked more quickly if necessary. Removable inner pots for easy cleaning and cool-touch exteriors are found on the more sophisticated models.

### Steamers

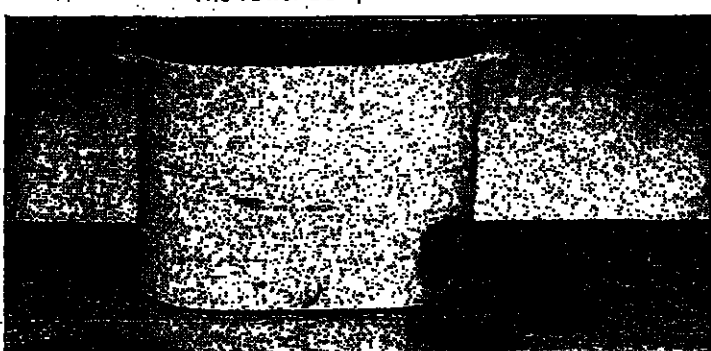
Steaming is a healthy method of cooking which retains a high proportion of the nutrients and minerals in food. Its gentle action also ensures that delicate foods keep their shape, texture and natural colour. Electric steamers can be precisely controlled and are available in a variety of sizes — some multi-level designs are large enough to cook an entire meal, which saves time and energy. Models can also be used as a bain-marie for making pates, terrines and suet puddings.

The egg boiler uses the same principle of steaming and cooks up to seven eggs at a time, to whatever consistency you wish.

Electric sandwich toaster are ideal for making speedy, fresh snacks. Preheating times are short, and most models incorporate an indicator light which comes on or goes off when the cooking temperature has been reached. Some sandwich maker/grill has removable plates for easy cleaning plus an extra set of plates so it can be used as grill.



The Tower Compact Sio cooker.



Steam cooker



The sandwichmaker/grill.



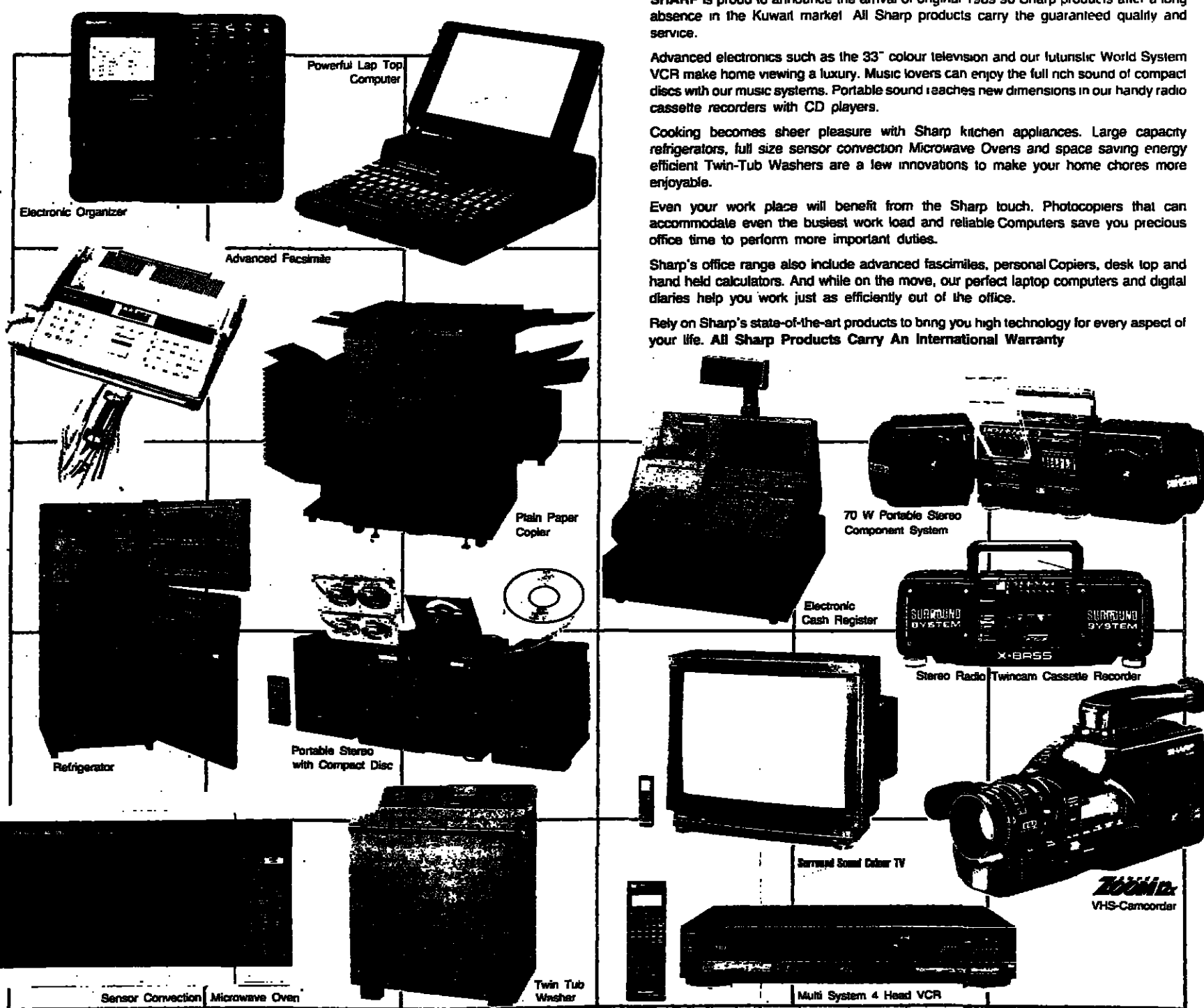
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# On the road with good stereo sound

By J. Taylor

It doesn't make much sense, but in my experience it's the truly ardent audiophile who often ends up driving around with the worst possible car stereo gear.

Why are these arbiters of audio excellence so complacent about the quality of their mobile music systems? The answer is found in a self-fulfilling prophecy. Audiophiles tend to view car stereo technology with a great deal of suspicion.

Consequently, when selecting a system, they often settle for the least expensive, least sophisticated gear. After all, why waste money on "good" equipment when everything is a rip-off? The result, of course, is low-fi performance on the road — and the perpetuation of a belief that is patently false.

I admit that some suspicion of car stereo gear is warranted. There are probably more cheap "200-watt sound exploders" on the market than legitimate amplifiers, but the persistence of the former only attests to the need for some consumer education.

I really don't believe that anyone would settle for junky equipment if he or she knew that good-sounding, well-made gear is also available. Test reports are an excellent source for such information, and I'll try to add my own insights here.

Simply put, there's no reason to judge car and home stereo equipment by different stan-

dards. They both must produce a smooth, natural sound from a variety of sources. What differences do exist are a function of the special problems involved in achieving good sound in a moving car.

For example, if you're shopping for an in-dash receiver/cassette player, usually referred to as a front end, you should limit yourself to those brands whose reputations and longevity are well documented. (After all, you wouldn't select a home component unless you were reasonably familiar with the manufacturer.) If you live in an area where FM stations are scarce or hard to receive, take a close look at the specifications for the unit's tape section. It shouldn't be hard to find a deck capable of reasonably flat response out of 15kHz, with wow and flutter well under 0.5 per cent. Excellent tuners are also available.

Here the difficulties of achieving consistent reception on the road force manufacturers to design tuners that perform strangely when compared to home units, but characteristic such as sensitivity and selectivity should rival those of their stationary cousins.

You will find that good car components cost more than shoddy ones, of course, and this is where the double standard really comes into play. If you take music seriously, it's very likely that you will devote more than \$1,000 to buying a home system. But most people simply

aren't willing to duplicate that expense when the buy systems for their cars. If you were to examine how you spend your time, however, you'd probably find that more of it is spent listening to music in the car than at home. On that basis alone, it seems to be just good sense to increase your expectation of what a car stereo system should cost.

No, you don't have to fork out \$1,000 to get good car sound, you can probably put together a decent system for half that amount. But in my experience, a typical \$150 setup consisting of a bargain-basement front end and a pair of no-name speakers is bound to sound mediocre.

## Reasons

There are several reasons for this, but space allows me to explore only the one that usually gets the least consideration when it comes time to make a purchase: power. A typical in-dash receiver will put out only a measly 3 or 4 watts. Would you settle for such a low-power receive at home? Of course not. Typical musical dynamics would quickly cause the amplifier section to run out of steam and clip. In a car — admittedly a much smaller listening space — an amplifier has to work hard just to keep the music above the noise floor. And if you like your music loud, chances are the amp will be clipping almost constantly.

People often compound the problem by trying to get additional power from a booster

which goes between the receiver's power outputs and the speakers. Such devices add their own distortion (which is often considerable) to the already high distortion of the cheap front end, resulting in loud but very dirty sound.

Opting instead for a higher power receiver is the easiest way to lessen the problem, but the most you can expect from such a unit is about 12 or 16 watts per channel, with distortion not much better than 1 per cent. Such performance, however, is better than what's available from a bargain basement unit, and it represents a tremendous sonic improvement.

Eventually, you may find that you need still more power. If you had a subwoofer or a second pair of speakers to your systems for instance, even a high power receiver may run out of steam. Luckily, many better-quality front ends are equipped with line-level outputs, making it possible to hook up an outboard amplifier. This is a good way to get the power you need. Outboard amps usually have low distortion, and units rated from 20 to more than 100 watts per channel are available.

You can also assemble a system around a preamp-only front end. This unit, which lacks an amplifier section, usually provides the best performance that a manufacturer can deliver, and it runs rings around a similarly priced all-in one receiver.

## Record's cyclic clicks treated

By Jimmy Hughes

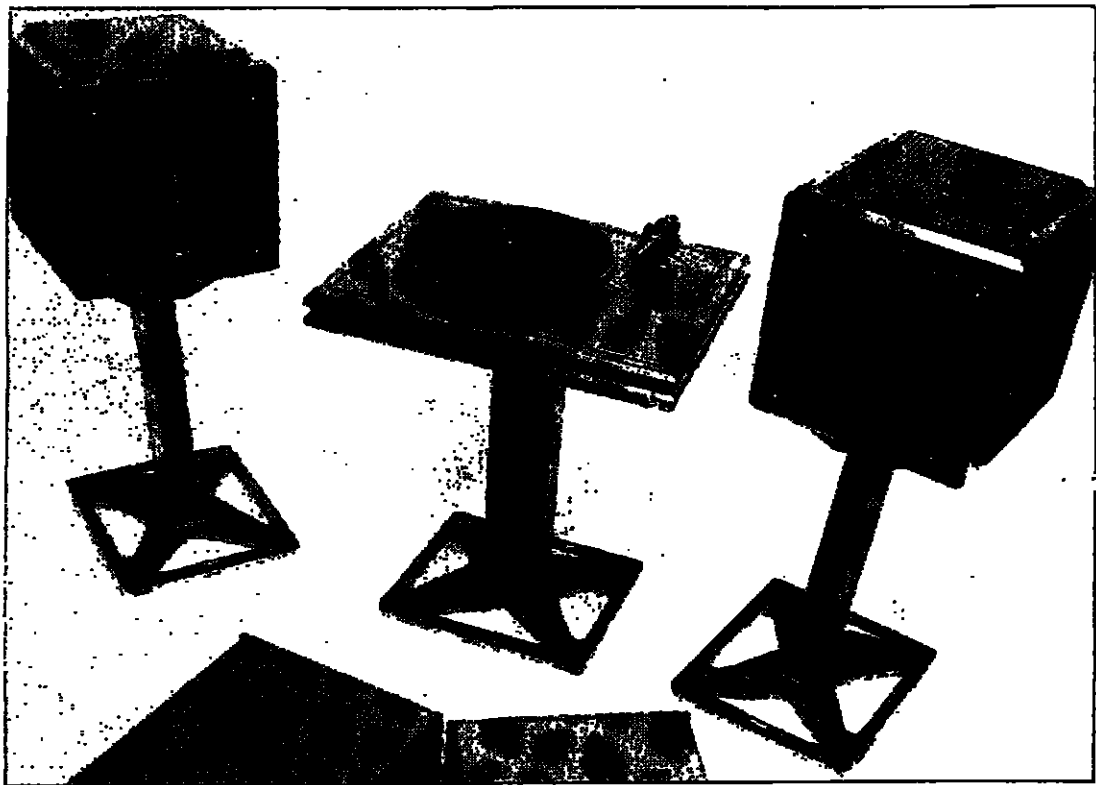
If there's one thing guaranteed to annoy, it's listening to an LP and suddenly hearing four or five loud cyclic clicks. In extreme cases the pickup can get stuck and keep repeating the same groove, or else it can jump altogether. Fortunately, the condition can be successfully treated in a large number of cases. When it happens to one of my own records, I immediately look at the disc to see roughly where the problem seems to be, using the centre label as a reference point. I then carefully examine the surface of the LP and usually find a small speck, adhering to the vinyl.

By careful application of a fairly stiff piece of card or plastic the speck can often be pried off, leaving the LP click-free. An inch or so of DNM ribbon speaker cable (preferably the newer "rainbow" type with semi-transparent ribbon sheathing) is ideal for this purpose, being fairly stiff but flexible enough not to mark the disc surface. A credit card could be substituted, although this would probably be too stiff, while heavy paper or card (a business card is about right) might have insufficient strength for the job. But whichever medium you choose for removing such specks, you'll need to use one of its flat edges.

If the speck has been on the LP surface for a long time and/or the stylus has played over it many times, you may find it harder to shift. In some cases, particularly when the speck is quite large, the top portion breaks off only to leave a remainder lodged deep in the groove itself. This is likely to be very difficult to shift, though (usually) it will only cause a single click. I wouldn't recommend that you try to dig into the groove to remove it for fear of damaging the disc.

In my experience, wet-cleaning your LPs will rarely help with this sort of problem. Indeed, it sometimes seems that the presence of liquids actually assists in making the speck stick with greater tenacity. It may sometimes be, however, that your troublesome speck is in fact a fragment of water-or-solvent soluble debris that can best be shifted by some form of wet cleaner. In such situations I would suggest that you try putting a few drops of Hunt's P2 liquid straight on to the troubled area, then use a cleaning pad. You can scrub quite hard, but only in the direction of the grooves — never scrub from side to side.

IFP2 (or either of the two, Last solvent fluids which work



equally well) fail to shift the mark, I might then try a drop of Cantorian Discex fluid, again rubbing quite firmly to try and lift the mark. If this has no effect, then it probably means that the 'stain' is actually a physical mark or perhaps something (probably paper) pressed into the grooves. Either that, or the contaminant is something that can only be shifted by fluids which would damage the vinyl in some way. In these cases you're stuck.

After dealing with the speck I would probably clean both sides with Cantorian fluid just to remove any dust which might have adhered to the surfaces while treatment was taking place. As for those troublesome specks themselves, it is my belief that (in some cases at least) they may be flakes or dandruff. When I worked in retail many years back, I'd be asked about this problem every so often, and in nearly every case it seemed to be caused by dandruff flakes falling on the disc surface and getting stuck. Naturally this could be very embarrassing. The customer would ask, "Should I change my cartridge?" and I'd have to reply, "Actually, I think you should change your shampoo!" So if you have dandruff take care not to lean over your record player when putting discs on it; either that, or wear a hat!

But even after removing any such itinerant flakes of scalp, your problems with disc cleaning aren't necessarily over. Two friends who use the Cantorian LP wet-cleaning system recently showed me some discs they'd cleaned. The result was fine, yet when I gently moved the edge of my hand over the surface I noticed that the "pull" was much higher than it should be. If you use the Cantorian fluid correctly it should leave the LP surface feeling smooth, without the friction one normally experiences. In such case I cleaned my friend's LPs, and they both commented on how much more pressure I applied to the fluid application pads when cleaning their discs, and how much more vigorously I scrubbed the grooves.

As this probably explained why their discs hadn't felt as smooth as those I'd cleaned myself, I suggested that they should apply more pressure when applying Discex cleaning fluid. Providing you always scrub in the direction of the grooves you'll do no damage — visible or audible — to your records. On the contrary, you'll clean them more effectively. The distilled water after-wash need not be applied so forcibly — though here I can pass on a tip that should leave the vinyl gleaming if carried out correctly.

After I've applied the Discex fluid to the LP surface and it's in a very wet state, I squirt seven or eight fairly big drops of distilled water onto the landed part of the disc surface — that is to say, the unmodulated part of the surface between the centre label and the modulated groove. I then use one of the brushes supplied with the Last cleaning system, and endeavour to bring these drops of water into a line as the disc revolves on the turntable platter.

The next stage is to try and direct the line of water from the landed portion of the disc back on to the grooves. With skill (and the right sort of surface tension on the record itself) you can direct this line of water right to the edge of the LP where it can be mopped up.

I advocate cleaning LPs on a rotating turntable platter, since it makes the job much easier as well as allowing you to do it more effectively. But do anchor the arm down securely, and put your stylus guard in place. In some cases it might even be worth investing in an old turntable just for the purpose of cleaning records; literally any old thing will do, providing it has a full-size platter and a reasonably powerful drive that doesn't slow down excessively when you put pressure on the disc with your brush.

The lesson is: do make sure you get your records good and wet when using Discex, and don't be afraid to give the surfaces a good scrub if that's called for.


KIT-BUILDING enthusiasts will be pleased to learn of Wilm-slow Audio's latest assemble-it-yourself product — the Volt Home Studio Monitor loudspeaker. The design uses the new Volt BM220.2 bass unit together with a Scanspeak tweeter in a compact reflex enclosure, a combination which gives the speaker a high power handling capacity

## Snippets .... snippets ....

of at least 200 watts. The speaker's split-circuit crossover network facilitates bi-wiring without the need for further modification, and eight 30 amp

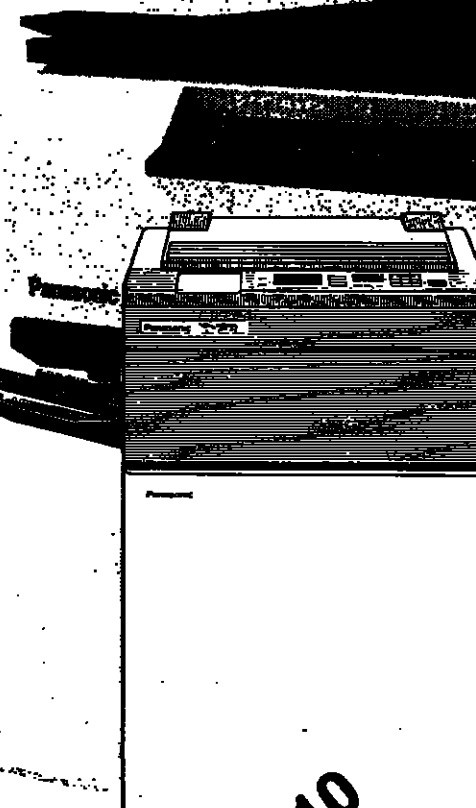
binding post connectors are provided. The kit, includes flat-pack 18mm MDF cabinets as well as grille frames and fabric.

ONE solution to the eternal tape cassette storage problem is home improvement company Trent's Hang-Ups storage system. The Hang-Ups starter kit comprises pairs of hooks that attach to the cassettes, which are then hung on the supplied track which you fix to your wall. For smaller spaces, such as in your car, there is the Hang-Ups mini-kit.




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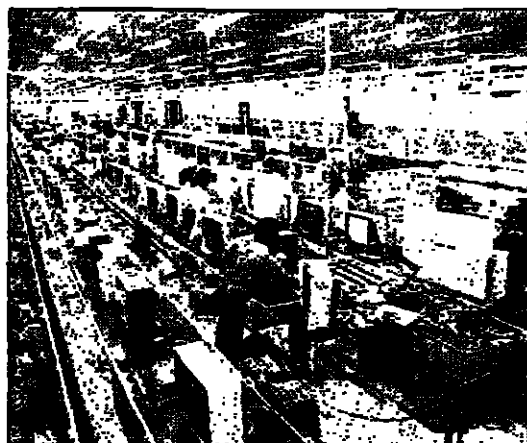
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Having quickly earned a reputation as one of the world's top consumer electronics makers, SEC and its affiliate, SST (Samsung Semiconductor and Telecommunications), merged in November of 1988. This move not only expanded SEC's product line but greatly strengthened its technology base.

Industry experts predict that the future of today's major electronics companies will increasingly depend upon their capabilities in semi-conductors and telecommunications in addition to basic consumer electronics. Thus, SEC remains at the leading edge of the industry, pinning other multinational conglomerate in integrating the varied fields of electronics technology.

The division of SEC into these business sectors — Consumer Electronics, Information Systems and Semiconductors — permits more effective and balanced business. These three business sectors are further separated into products categories of the manufacture of electronic goods of the highest quality.

### Research and development

Since its establishment in 1969, SEC has invested heavily and steadily in the development of sophisticated electronics technology and products. The

Company's Centre for research and development was completed in 1980, and it continues to serve as a testament of SEC's unwavering commitment to pioneer the frontiers of tomorrow's high technology.

SEC's R & D activities range in basic materials to finished goods.

Since becoming the first company in Korea to develop VCR's and microwaves in 1979, SEC has ranked as an industry leader. By 1987, SEC had built a water fabrication line for the development of VLSI-Class semiconductors. SEC has gained world-wide acclaim for achieving this major technological advance over a relatively short period of time.

In the development of consumer products aimed at upgrading this quality of life, SEC's R&D Center had played a pivotal role in mastering production of such items as high-definition TV, picture-in-picture TV, VCR-TV combinations, and other digital audio/video systems.

Semiconductor Business Semiconductors will play a central role in the high-information society of the 21st century, and the products of SEC will be in the forefront. SEC began developing semiconductor products in 1979 and has since become a formidable player in the world's microchip market.

For circuit design to processing, SEC has developed the technology necessary to produce more than 3,000 types of highly sophisticated semiconductor products. The company's latest achievements

include 1M and 4M DRAMs, a family of 1M SRAMs, advanced linear ICs, microprocessor peripheral devices, gate arrays, logical families, high efficiency MOSFETs and power transistors.

### International Activities

SEC's global network of six offshore plants, 11 marketing subsidiaries and 32 overseas branch offices has placed the company firmly in the ranks of the world's top multinational electronics corporations. SEC's Offshore Colour TV and VCR plants Create Jobs Abroad

Through vast overseas investments in the American local plants and marketing subsidiaries, SEC produces Colour TVs and semiconductors. SII (Samsung International Inc) established in Roxbury, New Jersey in 1989, produces 1 million Colour TVs annually and sells them in North America through its marketing subsidiaries, located in San Jose, California.

At Samsung Electronics, employees are distinguished for their emphasis on making products of the highest possible quality and value. The spirit of devotion is found at the early stage of products, as continuous efforts are made to ensure top quality from the initial processing right up to the final assembly. Finished goods then undergo vigorous quality control inspection by the Quality Management Division. That's why today, SEC's motivated and highly trained workforce building the image of "Samsung Electronics" by producing "Products with spirit"

## What's new — Kenwood

When dubbing from the compact disc, the wide contrast between loud and soft passages (called dynamic range) makes it nearly impossible to avoid over-under recording. That's why Kenwood has developed a computerized CD Recording System (CCRS). At the touch of a switch, the correct recording level and bias are set automatically. Each disc can therefore be recorded with its optimum dynamic range.

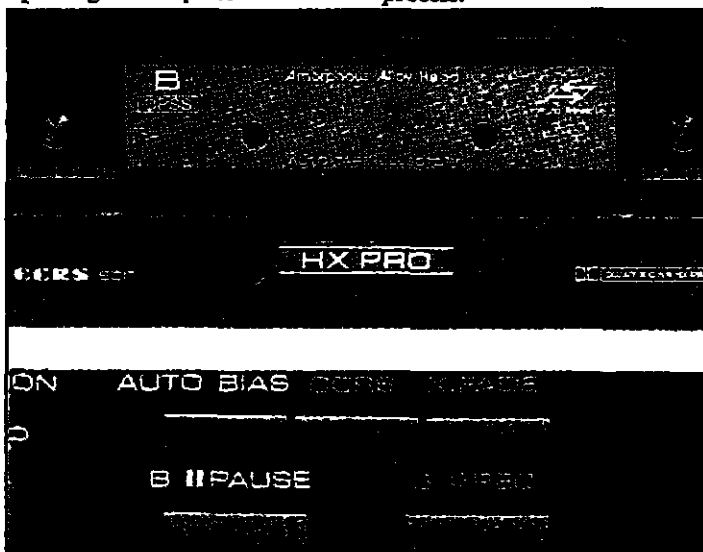
### Professional editing with CCRS EDIT PRO and Cross Fade

A computer takes care of another annoying problem. How to match CD track playing times with cassette tape length. With the new CCRS EDIT PRO system (M-933CD/M-833CD/M-533CD) you only need to input the tape length and press the Edit

Key. It automatically arranges songs to make the most efficient use of the cassette tape. Any song that overruns side A of the tape will automatically fade out, then fade in again on side B from the same spot. There's no gap, no fade distortion, and no frustration. For the professional touch you can call on the Cross Fade switch to automatically eliminate the gap between any two songs when recording from a CD.

### CD high-speed dubbing

The M-533CD system offers the convenience of CD-to-tape high-speed dubbing without any deterioration in sound quality. The graphic equalizer in the RX-53 automatically adjusts frequency characteristic and also implements Dolby B noise reduction during the dubbing process.



## KA-4010 reviewed

By Alvin Gold

LAUNCHED officially in March this year, the KA-4010 is only now starting to reach the shops. The model number is probably unfamiliar, but it's more than likely that the look of the product will elicit a whiff of déjà vu. The KA-4010 is indeed the KA-660D, breathed over and revised to stand up to examina-

tion in the '90s. The reason for the complete name change? Obvious — it's been done to confuse. Kenwood used to be called Trio...

Speaking of Kenwood, I was told that the KA-660D has been 'quite' successful. Reading between the lines, it does seem that the product was moderately successful, but not quite as successful as Kenwood had expected given

the design effort that had gone into it. Yet the cheaper KA-550D, which differs primarily in offering less power and a more nearly minimalist used interface (less knobs, I mean) had done quite a bit less well. The inference I draw from this is that Kenwood have yet to shake off the image of a traditional Japanese electronics manufacturer and assume the mantle of European-influenced producer of specialist electronics as they'd like. As Kenwood ruefully said: "At the end of the day, the 660 just had more buttons." And it still does, even with new numbers on the nameplate.

But changes there are. Among the key points tackled has been the circuit topology, and in particular the question — often vexed — of signal grounding. Kenwood have chosen to dignify what they have done by calling it Pure Signal Ground Line, which is described as a version of star earthing. My comment on this takes the form of a warning: beware of anything called pure where the first letter is capitalised. Just think of all those Pure Margarine (yuck!) if you don't know what I mean. The idea is to reduce (Kenwood say eliminate — but they would, wouldn't they?) very low-level spurious noise signals, thus improving dynamic behaviour and increasing resolution.

On the chassis front, Kenwood have adopted a technique that, with the usual Japanese passion for aggrandisement, has been dubbed a Point Contact Chassis. This relates to the way the circuit boards and sundry metal parts are clamped to the U-section chassis. They're not clamped to a flat surface, but on to what amount to raised pimples, which help isolate the components from vibrational effects. This was made possible with the simple addition of a blanking piece in the press tool, whatever that means.

To overcome another source of vibration, the front panel shape has been subtly altered. The KA660D fascia was a nice extrusion, but of constant thickness. The front panel here is ever-so-slightly concave on both sides, in order to stiffen the front panel. The effect, say Kenwood, is to reduce a degree of metallic ringing.

All this is good stuff and to be applauded, but I'm not blinded to the shortcomings. I noted, for example, that the main reservoir caps, which are mounted near the unsupported centre of the large main circuit board, bear directly

on the steel cover via a small foam pad, yet the cover itself is undamped and quite springy. This and other points of detail imply that the design is not as structurally clever as Kenwood would suggest. Mind you, these things are notoriously hard to analyse — I stand ready to be corrected.

We've gone all round the houses; now it's time to introduce some of the main points. You'll be able to see from the picture herewith that the Kenwood breaks no new ground for aesthetics. The 4010 looks like your archetypal mainstream integrated amplifier, but a good one of the type — cleanly turned out, sensible, conservative, and well finished, with a smooth, expensive control feel. It's a pretty large box too, and heavy, partly due to the use of a hefty lump of a frame transformer and a large internal fitted heatsink, which incidentally acts as a screen, shielding the input stages from the power supply. Construction appears to be very similar to the old 660 — except as detailed above — centring on the large main PCB, with an edge-mounted ancillary board, extensive use of board-mounted socketry (including 4mm binding posts) and the widespread application of good quality components — and there are lots of them. Nobody could accuse Kenwood of doing things by halves.

The facilities have not altered. A large central dual friction-locked volume control is flanked by a standard set of tone controls, loudspeaker switches (two pairs with either/both switching via relays) and both input and tape out selectors. The input selector has disc, CD, tuner and auxiliary positions; with a nearby switch providing appropriate sensitivity for all normal cartridge types. The tape sector controls two tape circuits, with a dubbing feature (tape 1 to tape 2 only), plus source and source direct positions, the latter avoiding the tape related circuitry altogether. Other controls include a bass intensifier and a tone defeat switch, plus the usual headphone socket and mains switching. Power output of the amp is 60 real watts/channel, with the usual qualifications.

I expected a lot from this amplifier, partly because its predecessor worked so well, and partly because I have followed Kenwood's progress through a number of prototypes. Sure enough the new amp didn't dis-

appoint, but nonetheless I am left at the end with a vaguely uneasy feeling about it. The design is open to the charge of not being sufficiently 'Europeanised' in various respects. The balance is a little lightweight, the treble a touch obvious. The bass is fast and agile, but it lacks weight and energy, a finding that pervades the midband too. At the same time — and I want to emphasise the point — merely rounding off the overall balance to counteract these tendencies would amount, in my view, to overlaying one distortion with another, and would almost certainly spell absolute disaster.

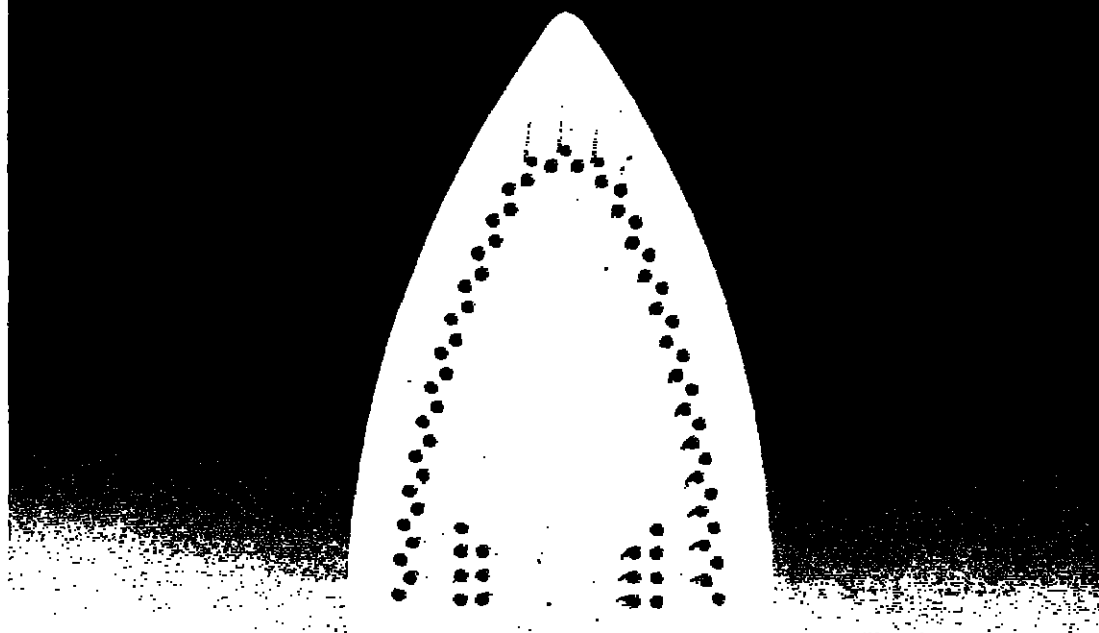
In the preparation for this write-up, I played a bit of a nasty trick on Kenwood. In a moment of weakness/spite/frustration, I obtained a sample of the Arcam Alpha. The reason for using the Alpha in this role should be obvious: it is among the top sellers at the price, and has a particular strong reputation. It also has some of the Kenwood's extras, notably tone controls.

I am forced to report that the differences I found between the two amps were striking, and almost always favoured the Arcam. The Kenwood sounded consistently less visceral and slightly more cluttered when loud. The treble wasn't entirely neutral either, as it suffered a trace of glare. With recording after recording, whether from records, CDs or tapes, the Arcam proved itself more dynamic and hard-hitting in its responses, and at the other end of the expressive envelope it was consistently more fluid and organic.

Uneasy as I was with the Kenwood, I am equally uneasy about casting it too firmly into the role of the bad guy. I don't think badly of it in any sense. I just think it's very good at being what I don't particularly like. What it does is not to be compared to the dry, often rather grainy, distorted character of many mainstream amplifiers.

There are other points to take into account. The Kenwood is easily the more powerful amp of the two, and in terms of power it probably beats allcomers at this price level, at least among the amplifiers that are worth listening to. It is also meticulously detailed and refined, and has great consistency with level and between inputs. It's just that when all hell should be breaking loose, everything sounds a bit tentative and polite, as though the amp were walking around on tiptoes.

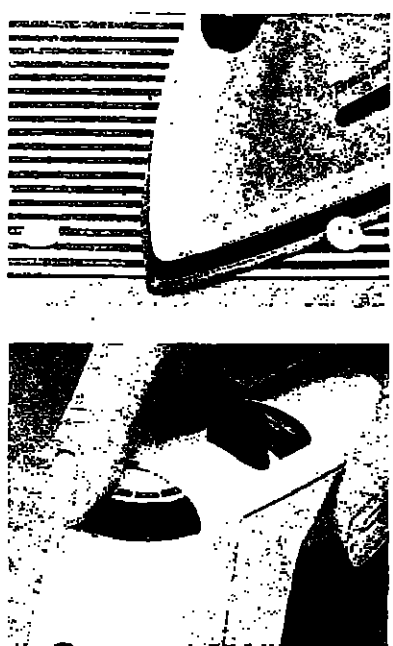
## 71 small details get to the point



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# How to get the best from your CD player

By J. Comeau

WHILST the claims made for CD hardware and software would make you think that its development has revolutionised the hi-fi market, its impact upon listeners is still the subject of some controversy, not least in the hi-fi press.

The initial advertisements promised a 'perfect sound, and one which never deteriorated. Unfortunately, neither promise has materialised, and may have led to a certain dissatisfaction with a playback medium which, nevertheless, has a lot of attributes.

A definitive result from a comparison between top quality turntables and CD players can never be expected. This is not only because of the personal opinions of the listeners involved, but also the considerable variations in the quality of the software.

Thus, such listening experiments must involve a wide choice of musical material in both media if it is to be representative of the current state of the art.

The classic argument is the one of analogue against digital. Though this is still a moot point amongst many theorists we have to concern ourselves with the practice. Now that digital is here to stay in the recording studio it may not make so much sense to translate it back into analogue for storage on disc.

**Objection**  
The most common objection voiced against CD by its detractors is 'lack of musical enjoyment.' I feel that this is an



Compact discs

unfair criticism and results, in many cases, from plugging a CD player into a system that has been carefully set up to reveal the best from analogue sources.

The conventional method of selecting equipment to make up a hi-fi system, that is if one goes about it the right way by using the services of a retailer with good demonstration facilities, is to listen to a wide variety of turntables, cartridges, amplifiers and speakers and choose those which together offer a balanced result.

Thus, put simply, a 'bright' sounding cartridge, which might be chosen for its clarity of detail, may be 'equalised' by warmer sounding speakers. Retailers' recommendations are often based upon a selection of equipment which they know will sound good, and is thus more likely to impress the potential customer.

Upgrading a system using analogue components can thus

then be arranged without too much difficulty. A new set of speakers could be chosen to suit one's existing amplifier, and these may require a new cartridge, or even turntable, to 'rebalance' the musical abilities of the system.

Such care is rarely taken with the introduction of a CD player into a system. The 'plug in and go' approach has, of course, been promoted by manufacturers of CD hardware who want to sell a player to everyone with a stereo system. Readers of hi-fi magazines may have rushed out to purchase a well reviewed CD player without thinking of the consequences of possible mismatching, even though they may be well aware of the problems involved if they were to do the same with a new cartridge.

To then expect the good results that the reviewer achieved with, usually, a totally different set of

equipment, is asking for trouble. The one aspect of performance common to these new 'reference' combinations is a natural and unforced presentation of musical detail, and the improvement in quality over the years has been in the greater resolution of such detail. This is something at which Compact Disc excels, and so clearly can one now hear every nuance of an artist's performance on both old and new recordings that I am now 'rediscovering' on CD, performances which I had put into cold storage on LP.

The major drawback with the subjective performance of CD — the one which still fuels the fire of controversy — is the apparent lack of guts and drive to the music. This displays itself most severely on jazz and rock material, and it is just unfortunate that the latter rarely captures the attention of the listener through minute musical detail, as in the classical repertoire, but more through its rhythm and vibrancy.

Remember that a CD player not only has a set of digital mechanics and electronics, but also a preamplifier section with analogue filtering often worse than that found in the RIAA equalisation sections of modern budget amplifiers. In the past decade we have seen greater emphasis put on the qualities of the preamplifier in a hi-fi system as the designers gradually improve methods of processing the minute signals from moving-coil cartridges. That such attention is only just beginning to be given to CD electronics shows

just how far the players have yet to improve.

There is no doubt that the classical listener has adopted CD largely because of the removal of background noises and distortion caused by cartridge mistracking. As a side effect he may have noticed an improvement in clarity and stereo image stability, but will only reap the full benefits of such performance capabilities if his associated system does not muddle the extra detail.

The large movement by many reviewers towards single core speaker and interconnect cables is also an attempt to sort out the extra detail, and stabilise the stereo image, from both CD and improved turntable sources. For it must not be forgotten that turntable, arm and cartridge manufacturers are continuing to develop their products towards new heights of musical retrieval from LP.

So how can we maximise the benefits of both analogue and digital recordings? The first move is to make sure that the overall characteristics of the system itself are in balance. This may mean changing many of the system's components depending on the age of the system and/or whether the components are bought as the result of listening comparisons.

It is important that the speakers have no strong characteristics of their own, as there will be no capability with a Compact Disc source of counteracting these, as one can for LP with a sympathetic choice of cartridge. Recent speaker designs are concentrating more on being a 'window'



CD player

## Cleaning compact discs

Look after your CDs and they will require only occasional cleaning

ALTHOUGH Compact Discs are often spoken of as though they were virtually indestructible, the truth is that they require almost as much care in handling as conventional LPs. This means that the playing side of the disc needs to be kept free from surface scratches and finger marks. The best way to achieve this is to cultivate a proper method of handling CDs so they remain clean. You should always return a disc straight to its caddy after playing, and never finger the playing side.

When removing a disc from its caddy, press lightly on the plastic grip in the centre so the CD can be taken out without undue force. If you just pull it out, you'll find the centre hole of the disc eventually becomes enlarged so that the CD fits loosely in its caddy.

Although one may be very careful handling CDs, they may nonetheless pick up a certain amount of surface dust. This is

because the protective caddy is not quite dust-proof. It can therefore become necessary to make some attempt at cleaning CDs, even when they have been looked after carefully. But how best to do it? The surface of a Compact Disc is very easily scratched, so what's needed is a means of cleaning which doesn't risk marking it.

The solution is to employ the services of a removable self-adhesive white label, such as you can buy from a good stationer. The size of the label is not unduly critical, but for ease of use do get something in the order of 1-1/2 X 2-1/2 inch. What is important is that the type of label chosen is removable — otherwise you're in trouble. If a label still seems a little bit sticky, run it over the back of your hand a couple of times to make it less tacky. You'll find that such labels are capable of removing dust and surface debris without producing scratches. You can remove fingerprints with this method too, especially if you form a light film of condensation of the affected area by first breathing on it gently.

## Music technology goes fast forward

By Graham Earshaw

HAMAMATSU, Japan. (Reuters): A vast range of electronic equipment, much of it produced in this central Japanese city, is fast changing the very nature of music.

The new technology has already revolutionised popular music and even begun to change the way classical music sounds. Musicians are being given endless new possibilities, sounds never before dreamt of and playing techniques unthinkable with traditional instruments.

'I feel we are just beginning with these products,' said Ikutaro Kakehashi, founder of the Roland Corporation, one of a number of leading makers, which has its factories here.

'So far, the dream of the engineers has been to achieve sound

quality approaching that of acoustic instruments. This is not the target any more. We are now aiming for new sounds,' he said.

'Because of the new instruments, the music itself is changing,' said Karl Hirano, head of the digital instrument division at Yamaha, a major producer.

'I think it is a good thing because the range of expression of natural musical instruments is quite limited. But using these digital instruments and computers really new areas can be opened up,' he added.

Synthesised music first emerged from the laboratory in the late 1960s thanks to American engineer Robert Moog. His synthesisers, along with those of a number of other small US firms, dominated the market until the mid-1970s.

Then, as in so many other fields, the Japanese moved in and almost wiped out the firms which had pioneered the industry by producing synthesisers both better and cheaper.

Moog's firm folded a few years ago, while one of the few US companies which had managed to keep up, Prophet, was taken over by Yamaha in January.

'They just stepped out of the market,' said Kakehashi of the US pioneers. 'Engineers and business don't mix well.'

Synthesisers began as keyboards, but can now be controlled in other ways. There are drum and guitar synthesisers and even a flute-like synthesiser appeared on the market.

Much of the technology is only four or five years old and experts say it is developing so fast that the equipment is often obsolete

within 18 months of being introduced.

They are often criticised for sounding too mechanical, and Yamaha's Hirano said some musicians, particularly classical pianists, were against the whole idea, seeing the computerisation of music as a kind of sacrilege.

'Music is not interesting at all when it becomes like a word processor,' said Tsutomu Kato, president of Korg, the third-biggest Japanese maker of synthesisers.

Kato said his aim was to produce a synthesiser which 'can accept human sensitivity and emotion' to give it the same late last year a flute-like synthesiser appeared on the market.

In spite of their versatility, there are sounds which the synthesisers and computers cannot yet duplicate.

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# Rigging votes is cheaper than buying them

LUCKNOW, India. (Reuters): Money still talks in Indian politics—but not as directly as it used to.

Although lots of cash has been splashed around before and during India's current elections, little appears to have been spent actually paying people to vote for a particular party.

The opposition Janata Dal has loudly accused Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Party of various ways of cheating in elections that began on Wednesday and continue on Friday and Sunday.

Most allegations have centred on the key northern state of Uttar Pradesh, of which Lucknow is the capital.

But a Janata spokesman in Lucknow conceded, "there is no evidence so far of direct vote-buying by Congress."

Congress has also accused Janata Dal of trying to rig the ballot—but charges of outright bribery have been absent.

Many politicians complain that in past elections, people cheerfully took money from any candidate willing to give it.

So the politicians appear to have concluded that buying the votes of 498 million registered voters is not effective as there is no guarantee that once a bribe has been paid, recipients won't go off and vote for whomever they please.

Candidates are legally allowed to spend 100,000 rupees (\$6,000) contesting parliamentary seats.

"We have a ceiling on election expenses. If a candidate exceeds that, it is corrupt practice. But it can always be disguised," said chief election commissioner Peri Sastri.

No one knows for sure just how much money is spent during an Indian election.

One opposition figure was recently quoted as saying nobody could fight a seat without at least a million rupees (\$60,000) in "black" (illicit) funding.

Congress sources say each of the party's 500 candidates got an initial 500,000 rupees (\$30,000) in two instalments, along with five jeeps for campaigning in often huge constituencies of up to 1.5 million voters.

Once the party is fairly sure a can-

didate is going to win, a further 100,000 to 200,000 rupees (\$6,000-\$12,000) is given, along with more jeeps.

A Congress candidate said the money was spent providing lunches and dinners for his constituents for at least two weeks before the elections.

Then there is the cost of transporting people to vote.

"Sometimes, we give them a little spin around the place in the vehicles before dropping them back home," he added.

Another expensive ploy is to get constituents drunk the night before the poll. The following day they are either too hungover to bother voting or are in an ideal state of mind to be sent out to stir up trouble.

Candidates have also been known to entertain election officials lavishly in hopes of being able to stuff ballot boxes.

But perhaps most expensive of all is the hiring of thugs or "goondas" to capture voting booths on election day, then stuff the boxes.

## Bihar 'turns against Cong (I)'

PATNA, India. (Reuters): Communal and criminal violence, caste and guerrilla warfare and a police force with a reputation for brutality make for a volatile mix when north India's Bihar state votes in national elections on Friday.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Party, which swept 40 of the state's 54 parliamentary seats in last general election in 1984, must win Bihar if it is to form India's next government, poll analysts agree.

But they say Congress will be lucky to get half its 1984 tally this time round.

Voting took place over roughly half of India on Wednesday and resumes again on Friday in most of the rest of the country. Punjab and Sikkim states conclude the poll on Sunday.

Bihar, which has 52 million of India's half-billion voters, is the country's second largest state but is its poorest and most backward. Like neighbours Uttar Pradesh it is part of India's Hindi-speaking heartland.

"An undercurrent against Congress has surfaced," said a Bihar state official who asked not be identified.

A Congress spokesman agreed support for the party had eroded but said the party still expected to get "at least" 28 seats.

The tide began to turn against Congress after four days of gruesome killing involving Hindus and Muslims in the Bihar town of Bhagalpur late last month.

More than 200 people, mainly Muslims, were killed and thousands of homes set ablaze after militant Hindus staged a procession through a Muslim area.

The commander of troops sent to quell the violence said Bhagalpur police had taken an active part in the riots.

The Hindus were following the sacred Ganges river, which flows through Bihar, carrying bricks for a temple to be built on the site of a 16th-century mosque in Ayodhya, in neighbouring Uttar Pradesh state.

The Bhagalpur killings and the Congress government's refusal to stop a foundation-stone ceremony for the temple in Ayodhya have outraged Muslims in Bihar.

"The role of Congress has been highly suspect during the recent riots," said Shahid Ramnagari, a leader of the Iqbal Shariat, a mainstream Bihari Muslim group which used to be pro-Congress.

"The left parties have not only tried to contain the spread of riots but also visited Muslim-dominated areas when passions were running high," he said.

Red hammer-and-sickle flags can now be seen on rooftops in Muslim areas of Patna, the state capital.

For the elections, the central government has sent nearly 10,000 paramilitary troops to Bihar in addition to more than 100,000 local police, the state's chief election officer Satish Bhatnagar said on Thursday.

"Our biggest challenge is raising the man power to man 64,000 polling booths," he said.

The task is complicated by the fact that 291 different parties have candidates in the election, Bhatnagar said.

About one-third of the booths have been designated as "sensitive," which means they are likely targets for violence, voter intimidation and ballot-rigging. Of the 48 people killed nationwide just before and during the 1984 elections, 28 died in Bihar.

Politicians in Bihar have traditionally relied on criminal gangs to get out—or turn back—the vote. At least two gang leaders are running for Parliament in this poll, local officials said.

"Indians are surprised at nothing that happens in Bihar," said a news photographer in New Delhi, referring to the state's history of violence.

In June 1988, 18 Harijans or "untouchables" were murdered in their sleep in one Bihar village, allegedly by local landowners.

The previous year, 28 high caste members of the landed gentry were beheaded and another 13 burned alive by Maoist guerrillas.

In the early 1980s a number of policemen in Bhagalpur were discovered blinding accused criminals by shoving bicycle spokes and pouring acid into their eyes.

# 39 killed on second day of voting in India

Small crowd embarrasses Rajiv

(Continued from Page 1)

target of the gunmen was Raja Sahib.

Singh is often called "Raja Sahib," which means "King, sir." He was in line to become the raja of manda, a barren tract of land in northern India, until India abolished royal titles and privileges in 1971.

Another witness to the shooting said he could not tell whether the shots were aimed at Singh. Both witnesses, who are not connected to any political party, spoke on condition of not being identified.

Security was increased today in Fatehpur where Singh had anticipated an easy victory over the Congress Party candidate, Hari Krishan Shastri, son of the late Congress Party Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri.

At least 4,000 police and paramilitary troops stood guard outside polling stations in the Fatehpur district.

West Bengal Chief Minister Jyoti Basu said one person died just outside the capital of Calcutta, 810 miles (1,300 km) southeast of New Delhi, in a clash between activists of his Communist Party of India (Marxist) and the Congress (I) Party.

Police said a second was killed when leftists attacked with bombs the house in Calcutta of a Congress (I) Party state legislator, who was slightly injured. They reported numerous injuries in other unrest around the state, including a bombing in a polling station in a Calcutta school.

Home Department officials in Uttar Pradesh, India's most populous and politically powerful state, said at least seven people died in clashes between rival political groups. More than 30 people were reported injured.

Security was tight at Rajiv's rally in Ludhiana, with those attending being checked by metal detectors.

Many of those who went to the rally gave up waiting in the rain for Rajiv, who arrived late, and the crowd he eventually addressed was small. The weather forced the cancellation of a second rally.

Rajiv has been addressing up to 20 meetings a day since the campaign began, criss-crossing the country by plane and helicopter. Congress workers have been embarrassed by the low turnout at some of them.

By comparison Singh has run an austere campaign stressing the difference between his pledge to bring honesty back to Indian politics and Rajiv's alleged lavish spending.

Rajiv's main campaign theme has been to dismiss the National Front alliance as unable to form a government from its disparate elements.

Congress is generally expected to hold its own in the south, but surveys suggested heavy losses in the northern Hindi-speaking region which dominates Parliament.

Rajiv needs to win well in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar in the Hindi-speaking northern heartland. The two states together elect 139 Members of Parliament.

Pollsters believe Rajiv has been damaged in the two states by a surge of Hindu-Muslim violence over a sacred site in Uttar Pradesh claimed by both faiths.

Interviews with voters emerging from polling booths in Patna, capital of Bihar state where the most ferocious religious violence occurred last month, suggested they were correct.

Most said either they voted for the Hindu revivalist Bharatiya Janata Party, which has a seat-sharing deal with the National Front, or for the Communist Party of India (CPI).

"The CPI will get most of the Muslim vote, 90 to 95 per cent," said Rashid Akbar, a Muslim, after he voted.



Chander Amrit of Janata Dal walks past heavy security to present a memorandum to officials of the Indian Election Commission (Reuters wirephoto)

Bookies offer poor odds

## Rajiv's chances slim

BOMBAY. (Reuters): Bombay's illegal bookmakers, who are doing a roaring election trade, say their odds are on an opposition victory over Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in this week's Indian polls.

"The odds keep changing every hour. But the betting trend now indicates that the chances of the ruling (Congress) Party coming back to power on its own are slim," one said.

Bookmakers reckon 100 million rupees (\$6 million) has been wagered over the past few days in India's commercial centre, the country's richest and most expensive city.

Punters range from ill-paid clerks to wealthy diamond, bullion and commodity dealers and stockbrokers.

As first of India's half billion voters cast their ballots on Wednesday, the bookmakers said volume would probably rise to one billion rupees (\$60 million) before polling ends on Sunday.

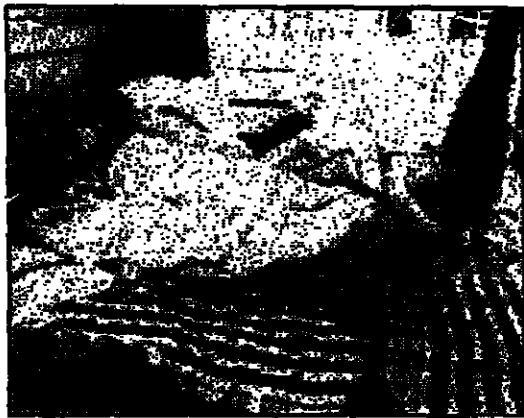
Backstreet bookies, operating from small restaurants or shops, were offering long odds on a Rajiv victory, some putting it at 4-1 against.

"Betting thrives on uncertainties and the present political situation offers plenty of them," said a bookie who did not wish to be identified. Most forms of betting are illegal in India.

He said there were plenty of bets that Rajiv would lose his own parliamentary seat, on the possibility of a coalition government and whether it would form around Rajiv's Congress Party or an opposition alliance.

"Then there are questions like who is going to be prime minister or finance minister or how long a coalition will last and so on," he said.

The crowded Zaveri Bazaar in central Bombay, where the city's jewellery and diamond trade is concentrated, is the main bookie hangout.



Guarding

Political party workers sleep outside the sealed building (left), where the Indian government stores ballot boxes and Delhi riot police stand outside the



Indian Election Commission (right) to prevent any election related violence. (Reuters wirephoto)

vote," said flower seller Raj Kumar Bhagat, a Hindu.

In Amethi, meanwhile, Janata Dal leader Sanjay Singh remained in intensive care at a local hospital today with a bullet wound in the stomach.

Sanjay Singh, a candidate for the state legislature, was shot on Wednesday during a confrontation with Congress Party workers. The Janata Dal maintains its

activist shot Sanjay Singh. Police have confirmed only that shots were fired, without specifying the gunmen.

Rajiv had been expected to win re-election easily to his Parliament seat from Amethi, where his chief opponent was the Janata Dal's Raj Mohan Gandhi, grandson of Indian independence leader Mohandas K. Gandhi.

The Election Commission,

responding to Raj Mohan Gandhi's protest of alleged vote-rigging, dispatched a four-member team of inspectors to Amethi today as the opposition clamoured for a new vote in the district.

Voting today was spread across 10 states and two federally governed territories where a total of 264 million people were eligible to vote.

## Indira killer's wife a winner

CHAMKAUR SAHIB, India. (Reuters): Long before Bimal Kaur Khalsa's motorcade churns into dusty view across the Punjab countryside, the waiting crowds are chanting militant Sikh slogans.

Khalsa, widow of one of prime minister Indira Gandhi's assassins, has come to symbolise the anger and alienation that have plunged the north Indian state into a spiral of violence over the past nine years.

A state official said intelligence reports showed Khalsa was far ahead of her rivals as a candidate for the Punjab parliamentary seat of Ropar and a "certain winner."

The former nurse's husband, Beant Singh, was one of two Sikh bodyguards who assassinated Indira Gandhi at her New Delhi home five years ago. He was shot dead by other members of the prime minister's security force.

Punjab's 12.9 million voters go to the polls on Sunday in the last leg of India's general elections, which opinion polls predict Mrs Gandhi's son and successor Rajiv will lose.

Rajiv is scheduled to visit Punjab, which is patrolled by 100,000 police and paramilitary forces, on a campaign visit on Friday.

At village after village, rough Sikh farmers and their wives wait to greet Khalsa in their best clothes.

Standing atop a jeep bedecked with marigolds, she makes a brief appeal for votes at each stop and then accepts tributes of garlands, cash and scarves of saffron cloth—the colour that stands for martyrdom among Sikhs.

The young men surrounding her raise slogans like "the Khalsa will rule" and "Long live Bhindranwale".

Khalsa (pure) was the name given to the Sikhs by their 10th and last guru, Gobind Singh, in 1699 when he swore them to militancy against India's Moghul rulers.

Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale was the preacher who raised the call for a separate Sikh nation, Khalistan (land of the pure). He was killed along with nearly 1,000 followers when troops stormed the Sikhs' holiest shrine, Amritsar's golden temple, in June 1984—the event that led to Indira Gandhi's murder.

"The people have not forgotten my husband's sacrifice," Khalsa says.

She says she has no election manifesto except to "save all Punjab"—Sikhs as well as the farming state's Hindu minority who are the main targets of Sikh extremist attacks.

There is an air of reverence among the rustic Sikhs crowding around Khalsa. Asked how she feels about being treated like a minor goddess, she responds in good English: "I feel proud."

Khalsa is confident of winning Ropar and says an opposition government in New Delhi will be good for Punjab.

But she has no answer for Punjab's continuing violence which has claimed more than 5,000 lives in the past three years, most of them innocent people killed in extremist attacks.

Earlier this month 17 Hindu college students were shot dead in their sleep at a hostel in the Punjab town of Patiala. Nine people, including a policeman and six civil guards, died on Wednesday alone.

The national elections, which began on Wednesday, have deepened rifts within the Sikhs' own Akali Dal Party. Three Akali Dal factions are fighting each other.

The strongest appears to be Khalsa's group, which is led by Simranjit Singh Mann, a former police officer accused of being involved in Mrs Gandhi's assassination.

Mann is standing for the Tarn Taran constituency in northwest Punjab from his prison cell in Bihar state, more than 1,500 km (935 miles) away.

Police say him winning handsomely, along with Sucha Singh, Bimal Khalsa's father-in-law who is standing in south Punjab's Bhatinda constituency.

The mood among Hindu voters is sullen. Hindu traders in Ropar were apprehensive of what would happen if Khalsa became their member of Parliament.

"This is real democracy," a senior policeman said. "You may have Gandhi sitting in the same Parliament as the widow of his mother's killers."

Bimal Khalsa smiles enigmatically when asked how she will feel when she takes her oath to defend India's constitution as a member of Parliament. "You will see," she says.



First day victim

Police stand guard over the bodies of two party workers killed in clashes in the north Indian town of Baghatpur during election polling. Election day violence claimed 45 lives during the first day of voting in the Indian general elections. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Election time carnival time

Sea of posters, flags

NEW DELHI, (UPI): Sunita Mudgal cared nothing for foreign policy, India's economy or any other issue Wednesday in deciding to cast her vote for Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

Nor was Mudgal swayed by the vast sea of posters, flags and multi-coloured bunting that opposing parties draped across Old Delhi to woo votes in a competition of showmanship and overkill.

"I will vote for Gandhi because he is handsome," declared the undergraduate from Delhi University as she and several friends waited outside a polling booth in the teeming heart of the Indian capital.

A carnival atmosphere pervaded the old city as thousands of voters flocked to polling stations through narrow lanes and congested streets to cast their ballots. Hindu women draped in bright saris and Muslim women covered head-to-toe in black veils.

For yard after yard, campaign posters strung on string and wire across the streets hung above the heads of pedestrians and the countless bicycle rickshaws manoeuvring cautiously through the press of pollution-belching traffic.

"It is a festival time," said Surinder Agarwal as he canvassed for last-minute votes for the Hindu chauvinist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) outside a polling station in a school in Khari Baoli, a section of the Chandni Chowk constituency.

"These posters overwhelm everything," said Avinash Gupta, who stood surveying the paper-coated walls and lamp posts outside the school after casting his ballot. "Whoever may win, the garbage collectors certainly will make a fortune."

"From a distance you see nothing but posters," said

Gupta. Rajiv's Congress (I) Party candidate, Jai Prakash Agarwal, faced a tough challenge in constituency from Satish Chander Khandelwal of the BJP and neither side appeared to have spared any money or men to disfigure buildings in attempts to make their names known to voters.

Early voters were able to cast their votes without any delays, but as the day progressed, queues began to form across the old city and other parts of the capital of 8 million people.

Men came alone or with several friends. Women arrived in nattering groups or accompanied by their husbands, who in many instances pointed out the symbols of candidates and instructed their spouses on how to mark the ballots.

Officials reported that 57.7 per cent of the city's 5 million voters turned out to cast ballots for seven lower house of Parliament seats, most of which were expected to go to the BJP.

Ramesh Chauhan, a middle-aged voter, reverently kissed a ballot before he stuffed it into a box in a polling station in another school in Khari Baoli.

"I have exercised my right," said Chauhan. But, when asked who he had voted for, Chauhan replied: "It is none of your business."

But H.R. Kakkar, a Sikh resident of the western New Delhi neighbourhood of Janakpuri, hesitated not a second in declaring his opposition to the Congress (I) Party.

Like many of the capital's 1.2 million Sikh residents, Kakkar feels outraged at the ruling party's failure to punish Hindus who participated in November 1984 anti-Sikh riots ignited by the assassination of Rajiv's mother and predecessor, Indira Gandhi.

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# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## Talks underway

### Kuwait to restore vital economic aid to Sudan

VIENNA, Nov 24, (Kuna): Sudan's Minister of Industry Mohamed Ahmed Omar Abdalla yesterday said consultations were underway with Kuwait officials to restore vital economic assistance to the country's economic sector.

Abdalla, currently here for the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (Unido) general assembly, told Kuna in an interview that Sudan highly appreciated Kuwait's assistance to Sudan, noting it had been suspended "due to unfavourable circumstances in Sudan under the previous governments."

He added Sudan appreciated the moves which led to the stoppage of Kuwait aid, indicating talks were underway between Sudan and the Kuwaiti government to resume financial assistance used to be channelled by the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (Kfard).

Kfard is a major partner in Sudan's multi-national Kenana Sugar Company. Abdalla said Kuwait did not ask for its share in the company's profits due to Sudan's difficult economic situation, a move he said was highly appreciated by his country.

Abdalla said chairman of Sudan's Revolutionary Command Council Gen. Omar Al Bashir would visit Kuwait Nov 27 for talks on bilateral relations and to encourage Kuwaiti investors to take part in new industrial development projects in the country.

He said his ministry had prepared a number of projects earmarked for export to ensure hard currency reserves for the shareholders.

The civil war in south Sudan had brought to a standstill a number of development projects in the country with the government spending \$2 million a day to cover military requirements.

But Abdalla noted that the problem of southern Sudan was close to end, thanks to his government's peaceful initiatives.

"The settling of the conflict in the south is just a matter of time," he said, adding US Former President Jimmy Carter had offered to arrange a face-to-face meeting between Al Bashir and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Movement leader John Garang in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi early December.

Abdalla said today that demand for Opec oil and gas is expected to rise by 21.53 million barrels a day against 21.32 million barrels daily for 1989.

The current official Opec ceiling is 20.5 million barrels a day and Subroto told reporters that an increase for the first quarter or first half of 1990 was the main issue along with individual quotas.

But he did not propose, at least publicly, hiking the ceiling by around one million barrels daily to the forecast 21.53 million barrel level.

## Qatar to play major role in meeting world gas needs

DOHA, Nov 24, (Agencies): A US energy economist has said here that Qatar with its mammoth natural gas reserves will play a major role in meeting the world's future gas demand.

Dr. Dorothy El-Mallakh, director of the Colorado-based International Research Centre for Energy and Economic development, made the remarks during a visit here last week. She was in the Gulf to publicise a conference planned by her centre from April 29 to May 2, 1990 in Boulder, Colorado, on the relationship between oil and gas.

She said the conference would deal with energy-related issues, including investment, development, pricing, market shares and future needs. Attention would also be paid to environmental questions and the need to preserve the world's natural gas resources.

Meanwhile world oil demand is expected to continue to rise at an average rate of about 1.6 per cent a year over the next 15 years.

Also, world dependence on supplies from the Gulf region is likely to increase between 34 to 35 per cent of the world total, according to Wolfgang G. Ludwig, head of the oil industry division at

the International Energy Agency (IEA) in Paris.

Ludwig was speaking at a two-day seminar which ended in Paris Wednesday on "oil and gas supply, demand and prices, prospects for 1990-95, organised by the Franco-Arab Chamber of Commerce and the Arab Petroleum Research Centre (APRC).

His comments were based on the IEA's world energy outlook to the year 2005, using a central scenario which assumes that crude oil prices will rise to \$18 per barrel by 1990, then gradually to about \$30 by the year 2000, remain-

ing at that level thereafter.

The scenario also presupposes that economic activity over the next fifteen years will expand at an average rate of about 2.7 per cent a year in OECD member countries and in the socialist states, and by 3.8 per cent for the developing nations.

According to the projection, oil demand is expected to rise most in developing countries at an average rate of 2.9 per cent, mainly because of rapid population growth, urbanization, greater transport needs and accelerating industrialization.

The rise in socialist bloc countries is forecast to reach two per cent per annum, while in the OECD countries the increase in oil consumption is expected to be only around 0.8 per cent a year, Ludwig says.

As a result, he adds, non-OECD countries' share of world oil consumption, measured in million tonnes of oil equivalent (MTOE), could rise from 42 per cent in 1988 to about 52 per cent in the year 2005.

The expert notes that the rise in OECD oil demand will come mainly from the transport sector and the petro-

chemical industry. Oil demand for transport will grow at an average annual rate of two per cent until 1995 and a rate of about 1.3 per cent thereafter to 2005.

Though oil is expected to remain the principal component of world primary energy requirements, its share of the total world energy market is forecast to decline from its current 40 per cent to about 35 per cent, but its use in volume, however, should rise from over three billion cubic tonnes per year now to about four billion in the 1990s, he maintains.

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## Opec seeks new formulas

### Ministers see bright demand, firm prices

VIENNA, Nov 24, (UPI): Opec oil ministers said today the "bright" demand and price prospects justify a higher production ceiling but that a redistribution of individual quotas may prove impossible.

The 13-member Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries begins its year-end conference tomorrow with proceedings expected to be either short and easy or long and acrimonious.

Nigerian Oil Minister and current Opec president Rilwanu Lukman was optimistic about the overall outlook.

"The market is good, prices are firm and demand is strong, so things are looking bright with prospects of a good future," he told reporters.

Lukman warned against any "rash" agreement on production sharing, however, saying there are "serious issues which cannot be so easily solved."

There was a general feeling among officials that ministers would end up by again simply boosting official output while all or nearly all members ignore their nominal quotas.

Opec and oil market experts said current Opec daily output is running at around 23.5 million barrels or 3 million barrels above the official ceiling.

Opec secretary-general Subroto of Indonesia said today that demand for Opec oil and gas is expected to rise by 21.53 million barrels a day against 21.32 million barrels daily for 1989.

The current official Opec ceiling is 20.5 million barrels a day and Subroto told reporters that an increase for the first quarter or first half of 1990 was the main issue along with individual quotas.

But he did not propose, at least publicly, hiking the ceiling by around one million barrels daily to the forecast 21.53 million barrel level.

Ranking delegates said ministers faced two basic options:

● raise the current ceiling of 20.5 million barrels a day on the basis of current output percentages and with continued widespread over-production a certainty, or,

● engage in drawn-out bitter wrangling with slim chance of success on a reallocation of quotas.

Some members predict demand for Opec oil of as much as 23 million barrels a day in the first and cold quarter of 1990 but that things will be more difficult in the second and warmer quarters.

"What we are basically looking at is fixing a higher ceiling for the first half of 1990 while leaving open the possibility of reducing it for the second quarter," a high Gulf official said.

Preliminary talks about how and what to debate were held today in the contact groups comprising what Opec delegates call "the four wise men" — oil ministers Sadek Bousnena of Algeria, Giandjar Kartasmita of Indonesia, Celestino Armas of Venezuela and Lukman of Nigeria. Subroto sits in on the discus-

sions.

The full conference was scheduled to open at Opec secretariat headquarters at 11 am (1000 GMT) tomorrow. It was certain to be at least one hour late as customary under what is known as "OMT," standing for "Opec mean time."

K. S. O. Minister Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa arrived here Wednesday heading an official delegation to meetings of Opec's ministerial pricing and production committee.

The minister is further scheduled to attend Opec's ordinary ministerial session slated to open here tomorrow.

The ministerial committee, grouping Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Algeria, Iran, Nigeria, Indonesia and Venezuela, is to debate various issues related to the new agreement the organisation is expected to adopt on production ceiling and distributing quotas among member countries for the first half or quarter of 1990.

The committee is also expected to discuss development of prices and production of crude oil in international markets and adopted recommendations for endorsement by the ministerial council.

Iraq will ask for a higher oil production quota when the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries meets in Vienna this week, oil analysts in Baghdad said.

The quota stands at 2.92 million barrels a day for the last quarter of this year, but Iraq will soon have the capacity to produce as much as twice that amount.

The analysts, who spoke on condition of not being identified further, said Opec Minister Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi will ask the Opec ministers to raise the quota at the meeting.

"Iraq has been talking about having large reserves and higher export capacity ... to get the message through that it will push for a higher quota," said one analyst.

### Oil summit planned in '90

ALGIERS, Nov 24, (Reuters): Opec foreign and oil ministers will meet early next year to discuss a proposed summit of their leaders, Venezuelan Foreign Minister Ricardo Figueredo Planchart said yesterday.

He told a news conference at the end of a three-day visit to fellow Opec member Algeria: "We are talking about a meeting of ministers of foreign affairs and of oil early next year to take up directly the subject of the summit."

Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez is a leading advocate of a summit of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries to explore long-term strategy and deepen its commitment to self-imposed production controls.

Planchart said the 30th anniversary of Opec's founding next September would be a good occasion to hold the summit. Algeria backed the idea, he added.

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## Gold gains

### Sterling weakens

LONDON, Nov 24, (Reuters): The West German mark dominated European currency trading today after a week which saw the currency march from strength to strength.

The pound sterling was particularly hard hit, touching a 33-month low against the mark against the background of a shaky British economy and dissent in the ruling Conservative Party.

"The story is really the mark," one London trader said. "But sterling has its own problems."

Speculators have poured money into the mark since East Germany opened its borders to the West two weeks ago, believing West German interest rates will stay high to combat a threat of inflation as East Germans flock to buy Western goods.

"The rush into the mark is overwhelming, and there is still potential for further gains," he dealer said.

The West German currency drove the pound to a low of 2.8130 today, its weakest against the mark since February 1987 and not far from its all-time low of 2.7450 in January that year.

Worries about high inflation plagued the pound, which was also hit by news of tensions in Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative Party.

Maverick parliamentarian Sir Anthony Meyer has said he could challenge Thatcher for the party leadership. Political pundits say Thatcher is unlikely to lose but the prospect is still unattractive to foreigners, who identify her with Britain.

Gold continued to push upwards, touching an 11-month high of around \$417.38 an ounce before settling back to end at \$416.25, 4.50 up on Thursday's close.

## Exclusive range of services

### Air offers facilities

AIR-INDIA has introduced for the first time an exclusive range of services for its first and executive class passengers. These include: instant offices around the world; and special privileges at leading hotels world-wide.

Passengers on Air-India can now avail of these special facilities at Diners Business Services and world-wide business centres network establishments in India and abroad. The services are available at preferential rates on a pay-by-use basis. The facilities offered cover: (a) access to a fully-equipped private office; (b) secretarial assistance; (c) a specially assigned telephone number and a personal answering system; (d) the use of an office address, telex and fax facilities; (e) a receptionist to greet visitors; (f) professional mail services; and (g) assistance from multi-lingual personnel for interpretation, translation, etc.

Air-India has also entered into an arrangement with Hilton/Vista International and Sheraton hotel chains world-wide, and Oberoi and Ashok group of hotels in India, which entitles its passengers to special privileges such as early check-ins, no-stop check outs and room upgradation at preferred rates.

These hotels, along with the Ramada, Best Western and 25 other prestigious hotel chains, are linked to Air-India's computerised reservation system giving access to instant reservation, updated information on room availability and tariffs.

At New York, London, and Dubai, Air-India's first class passengers can avail of a chauffeur-driven limousine service for airport transfers on departure and arrival. Taxi transfers have also been arranged at Frankfurt, Chaudhury-driven airport transfer service has been extended to Bombay and Delhi.

Plans are on the way for the introduction of a series of additional facilities for Air-India passengers such as car rentals and a hotel plan, which will also include economy class passengers.

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## KD deposit rates ease

KUWAIT, Nov 24, (Reuters): Kuwaiti dinar deposit rates eased yesterday after salary payments on Tuesday pushed them down and a treasury bill issue the next day sent them back up again.

Dealers quoted rates of 8-1/2 1/4 per cent in all periods across the board.

A 150 million dinar (\$510 million) treasury bill issue on Wednesday pushed rates up after most banks received a full allocation and funds were drained from the banking system. Overnight, tomorrow-next and spot-next were all well-bid at 8-1/2 per cent.

On Tuesday, a flood of salary payments entering the system had pushed rates down.

The Central Bank left its dinar exchange rates unchanged from Wednesday at 0.29768/78 to the dollar.

Meanwhile, Saudi riyal inter-bank deposits were mixed in thin trade on Thursday, with short-dated funds marked higher in response to tightening liquidity and fixed periods easing on the back of softer Eurodollar rates.

Dealers reported business mainly in the short dates. A recent wave of dollar-buying on the forward market and settlement of a new Saudi bond issue this week has drained excess liquidity from the market, sending operators scrambling for funds to cover day-to-day positions.

Spot-next rose to 9-3/8, nine per cent from nine, 8-1/2 on Wednesday.

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● A guarantee of at least your full investment back at the end of the term.

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one of the following Standard Chartered branches or come and see us at Money 89, Dubai, Nov 27-30. \*If you decide to sell before the end of the ten year term, this guarantee will not apply.

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Abu Dhabi	Mr K M Thomas	Tel: 335033
Sharjah	Mr Fakhru Suleiman	Tel: 522247
Deira	Mr Joe Azavedo	Tel: 222478
Al Ain	Mr A Khan	Tel: 641052
Oman	Mr R Benjamin	Tel: 703999
Doha	Mrs Lindsey Morgan	Tel: 414248

To: Alison Meredith, Sc



## Japanese pledge

## \$150 million loan for Poland

TOKYO, Nov 24, (AP): Japan today pledged a \$150 million concessional loan for Warsaw and said it was considering other aid to Poland and Hungary to help relieve their economic crisis and promote democratic reform.

Concurrent with an announcement in Brussels at an international meeting on aid to the two countries, chief cabinet secretary Mayumi Morioka said Japan would extend a low-interest loan of \$150 million to Poland for its currency stabilisation programme.

Japan is also considering additional loans through the Export-Import Bank to cover trade and investment insurance for Hungary and is studying plans to provide emergency food aid to Poland and technical assistance to both countries, said Kenzo Oshima, director of the aid policy division at the Foreign Ministry.

Asked why Japan, with the world's largest non-military aid budget, was giving a loan rather than a grant, Oshima conceded that Poland probably would have been happier with a grant.

"It is up to each country to decide what fits," he told reporters. "The US apparently felt a grant would be more preferable... as far as Japan is concerned, we felt a concessional loan would meet if not 100 per cent of their requirements, at least an important part."

Japan has explained its relatively slow development of an aid package for Eastern Europe by saying the region is remote from Japan, and relations were not important while those countries had little independence as members of the Soviet bloc.

"It can't be denied that part of the world is remote," Oshima said. "It is not something like China or Korea to Japan."

Oshima said the \$150-million loan would carry at most a three per cent interest rate and be repayable over 25 years with a seven-year grace period. The loan would be made if agreement is reached between Poland and the International Monetary Fund on a plan to restructure the Polish economy.

Poland has asked Western countries to support its efforts to control inflation, running at an annual rate of 800 per cent, and to stabilise its currency, following a price reform programme begun in August.

Western officials say that without more assistance, the country faces a severe food shortage this winter.

As part of a Western support package for Poland and Hungary from the 24-nation Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the US Congress has proposed aid to those countries worth \$930 million over the next few years.

Japanese press reports earlier in the week said Japan was likely to provide as much as \$200 million in aid to Poland and Hungary as part of the OECD package.

## Largest UK trade team for Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, Jan 24, (Reuters): The largest British trade mission to visit Latin America will arrive in Argentina on Saturday seeking to renew commercial links broken during the 1982 Falklands war.

"We hope the mission will be a first step on the road to re-establishing bridges with Britain, which has traditionally been a close partner of Argentina," said Massimo Bonchelli of the Argentine-British Chamber of Commerce.

Commercial and diplomatic links between both countries were cut after Argentine troops seized the Falkland Islands in April 1982. Nearly 1,000 died in the next 10 weeks of fighting before a task force restored British rule.

"The mission is enormously important from a political point of view when you consider that Argentina will be receiving the largest trade mission ever to visit Latin America just 60 days after restoring relations," said Bonchelli.

Argentina and Britain agreed last month to resume consular ties and are due to hold negotiations in February on the possibility of restoring full diplomatic links.

"Now that negotiations are over, I can say that the trade restrictions hurt the Argentine economy more than it affected British business," Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo told reporters after both countries decided to renew consular ties.

The British businessmen will meet Cavallo and Foreign Trade Secretary Oscar Sagge during their week-long visit.

Argentine officials will be trying to woo the visitors into investing in Argentina, which was Britain's eighth biggest trade partner before the war, when annual bilateral trade totalled \$470 million.

British exports to Argentina last year were \$21 million, while Argentine exports to Britain were \$106 million.

But there will be no sales of military sensitive technology.

## Aid treaty talks

## Third World hopes EEC will hear its plea

BRUSSELS, Nov 24, (Reuters): Third World countries hope the European Economic Community, preoccupied with events in Eastern Europe, will show commitment to their development needs during talks this weekend on a new trade and aid treaty.

"The community has to bear in mind that any opening up to the East must not be to the detriment of the ACP," Chadian Ambassador Abdoulaye Lamana, ACP spokesman on debt,

investment and structural adjustment, said in an interview.

The meeting between the 66 African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) developing states and the EEC brings to a head 18 months of negotiations on a pact to succeed the third Lome convention, which expires in February.

Discussions in Luxembourg last month stalled after the EEC refused to say how much money it would give until the ACP states accepted the rest of its

proposals for the treaty.

"The ACP can't be pushed into adopting positions which are against their interests," Lamana said. "We are starting to ask ourselves questions about Europe's will to continue co-operation with the ACP," he added.

The Third World states, pointing to inflation, rising populations and falling export revenues, have asked for 15.5 billion European currency units (\$17.4 billion) over the first five years of a new

10-year treaty.

"Our demands are not unreasonable," said Senegal's Ambassador Fallou Kane. European aid to Poland and Hungary in recent weeks was worth \$60 for each person, while the ACP was seeking just \$9 per head, he said.

The European Parliament has threatened to block any agreement which gives less than 12.8 billion ECUs (\$13.6 billion), which is also what the

community's executive commission is thought to favour.

Countries like France and Italy, who fear competition from ACP agricultural products, would rather be generous with aid than make commercial concessions.

Britain and the Netherlands, however, believe lowering trade barriers to stimulate exports is the key to development and want to keep finan-

cial aid back for their own bilateral initiatives.

Lome III, signed in 1984 when the EEC was emerging from a period of recession, was worth 7.5 billion ECUs (\$8.4 billion) in aid and another billion in soft loans.

Despite reaching some common positions at last month's Luxembourg talks the two sides failed to agree on several key points in the areas of trade, debt and commodities.

## UAE and China to expand trade ties

Billion-dollar investment to produce cars by next year

DUBAI, Nov 24, (Agencies): The United Arab Emirates and China have discussed ways of expanding trade relations between the two countries.

Talks on boosting co-operation were held here between Abdul Rahman Ghanim, director-general of Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Chi Yuchan, secretary-general of the Chinese Chamber of Trade.

Ghanim disclosed that the value of Dubai's imports from China rose to \$264 million last year from 107 million in 1984.

China ranked ninth among exporters to the UAE, according to trade statistics released in 1988.

Ghanim urged Chinese companies to establish joint industrial ventures in Dubai or Jebel Ali free trade zone as a means to

attract local industrialists and businessmen, a move that would also encourage Arabs to invest in China.

In commenting the "flourishing" trade relations between the two countries, Chi said his country regarded Dubai as the "gateway" to entering Arab Gulf markets.

"The Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry is playing a basic role in developing China's trade and economic relations with Arab Gulf states," he asserted.

Chi is here as part of a 140-strong delegation from 60 Chinese companies to participate in the international autumn fair, which is scheduled to open here Monday.

UAE economy and Commerce Minister Saif Al Jarwan was due to co-chair a meeting of

the joint UAE-China committee today with Chinese Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Zheng Tuobin.

Al Jarwan said the discussions would cover a number of important issues related to joint projects, investment and technical co-operation.

He maintained that he expected "fruitful" results to come out of the committee's deliberations "as a result of the desire of both sides to strengthen (bilateral) links."

"Arab-Chinese relations have a long history," he said, adding that trade had prospered between the Arab world and China via the "silk way," a trade route between the Arabs and China as well as Europe.

The joint committee was set up in November 1985 and held its first meeting in Beijing in

November last year.

Meanwhile, an official news report said today in Beijing that \$1 billion investment is putting Panda Motor Corp., China's largest foreign-funded investment project, on track to begin auto production by the end of next year.

American Panda Motor Co., which is affiliated with the Unification Church of South Korea, is investing \$1 billion in the project. The company will produce 300,000 cars a year by 1995, all for export, the People's Daily newspaper said.

Chinese government reports said previously that investors in the United States were putting \$250,000 million into the project.

The report also said investors from 20 countries and "regions" were involved in the project, but gave no further details.

## BA offers MEVS to passengers

JOHN Pawsey, newly appointed general manager for Middle East Visitors Service made a brief visit to Kuwait recently. He highlighted the different ways in which "MEVS" as it is frequently known, has for the past 9 years offered a free, Arabic language "Meet and Assist" service at London to any of British Airways' numerous Arab passengers who request it before leaving the Middle East for travel to or through Heathrow or, more recently, Gatwick Airport.

All MEVS staff speak fluent Arabic and having assisted with immigration and customs formalities will, if required, drive the passenger to his destination anywhere in the United Kingdom in a MEVS limousine. No other UK company can match MEVS exclusive Arabic speaking chauffeur service. Just £32 will take you from Heathrow to central London. But if you have an onward flight from London, MEVS will again be on hand to see that your transfer formalities are completed. For longer connection times MEVS staff will make sure that you are comfortably settled in the "Oasis lounge" where showers, refreshments and a peaceful atmosphere are exclusive to British Airways passengers with onward flights.

London apartments can also be booked before you leave home, and MEVS will take care of the bookings. The same applies to hotels and car rentals, MEVS prides itself in being able to help in numerous ways — for example an all day sightseeing tour or shopping trip with MEVS assistance throughout.

No wonder Middle East visitors Service chalks up its 10th anniversary next April. It's the service which British Airways passengers from the Middle East ask for again and again. Your travel agent and British Airways have the details.

## Airlines to resume flights

KUWAIT, Nov 24, (Kuna): Syrian and Egyptian national air carriers will resume flights between Cairo and Damascus next week to end more than a decade-old suspension, according to a Kuwaiti daily today.

Flight officials from the two sides have been on constant contacts over the matter in the past two weeks, the paper said quoting a senior official of the Egyptian Aviation Authority.

The two sides are now working out details of flight schedules and reopening offices of Egyptian and the Syrian airlines in Damascus and Cairo.

The move is in line with clear signs that Egypt and Syria were heading for restoration of diplomatic and normal ties between them. Syria was one of the fiercest critics of Egypt's 1979 peace treaty with Israel and was one of 16 Arab countries that boycotted Cairo because of that accord.

## We have a position of slowing growth: economist

## UK trade deficit narrows

LONDON, Nov 24, (Reuters): Britain announced yesterday that its current account deficit narrowed to £1.54 billion (\$2.4 billion) in October, easing pressure on Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's embattled government.

The slight fall from September's gap in foreign trade of £1.6 billion (\$2.5 billion) was greeted with cautious optimism in London financial markets which had feared the deficit would widen.

Share prices rose on the news, with the Financial Times-Stock Exchange index of 100 leading shares climbing 25 points to 2,217.3 in early afternoon session.

The pound held steady after worries earlier in the week about Britain's 7.3 per cent inflation rate had taken it to its lowest levels in 33 months against the West German mark.

"The position of sterling is still very vulnerable," Bill Martin, economist with brokers Phillips and Drew, said in a television interview.

"We have a position of slowing growth and... a possible worsening of the political background. If the current account doesn't show any substantial improvement from present levels, then I think it right to pencil in, at least, a further (interest) rate rise for the new year."

British foreign trade has been in the red for almost three years. But recent steep rises, including a record £2.4 billion (\$3.8 billion) deficit last October, threaten to undermine the country's overall economic strength.

Economists had feared that a marked rise in the October deficit of the current account, which

measures "invisible" earnings from services such as insurance and tourism as well as trade in physical goods, would have sent the pound diving.

Chancellor of the Exchequer John Major, appointed last month in the crisis sparked by the resignation of his predecessor Nigel Lawson, might have been forced to raise interest rates from their present level of 15 per cent.

Economists fear that such a move to defend the pound on the foreign exchanges would stifle investment at home and help pitch the country into recession.

Thatcher, whose standing in opinion polls is at its lowest in her 10 years in office, would face the danger that home owners would rebel over high loan repayment rates and vote against her in a general election due by mid-1992.

Thatcher's clash with Lawson over economic policy has stirred unprecedented criticism of the prime minister within her Conservative Party's ranks. She now urgently needs to conquer the dual enemies of inflation and the trade deficit to reassert her authority before an election.

Major struck a gloomy note early this week when he predicted a difficult time for the economy in 1990 after a current account deficit this year totalling £20 billion (\$31 billion).

Last year's deficit soared to £14.6 billion (\$23 billion), more than three times higher than the £4 billion (\$6 billion) predicted at the beginning of the year.

## Tehran paper flays Moscow

Planned pact with Iraq

NICOSIA, Nov 24, (Reuters): An Iranian newspaper close to the Foreign Ministry attacked the Soviet Union yesterday for a planned economic agreement with Iraq, saying it could affect Tehran-Moscow ties.

The Tehran Times said the multi-billion-dollar pact showed Moscow's "lack of concern about peace and calm in this part of the world" at a time when Iraq was stalling UN-sponsored peace talks.

The Soviet Union had failed to push for an Iran-Iraq settlement and instead adopted "policies that will only prove a stumbling block to peace," the Iranian news agency Irna quoted the English language newspaper as saying.

A Soviet official announced in Baghdad two weeks ago that Moscow planned to help Iraq with a 15-year economic and technical programme worth billions of dollars and including oil, electricity and irrigation projects.

Tehran Times said the deal would be signed in the near future during a visit to Moscow by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

"As things stand, it is but natural for Tehran to

take such dealings on the part of Moscow into consideration as it might affect politico-economic relations with the Soviet Union in the long run," Tehran Times said.

Moscow was Iraq's biggest arms supplier during the Gulf war but Tehran has moved to improve links with its giant neighbour since fighting stopped in August 1988. Iran signed a major economic agreement with Moscow in June.

Iraq, for its part, condemned that agreement which covered Soviet help in boosting Iran's defence, export of natural gas to the Soviet Union and building of dams, power plants and railways.

Iranian officials said the projects could be worth up to \$15 billion.

In a separate report, Irna, monitored in Cyprus, said Iran and the Soviet Union signed two letters of understanding on Wednesday under which Moscow would supply Iran with industrial machinery and expand a machine-tool factory in Arak.

Iran would export buses to the Soviet Union in return.

## Big companies blamed for most computer software piracy

SINGAPORE, Nov 24, (AP): Billions of dollars worth of computer programmes are illicitly copied each year, mostly at large corporations rather than by shady peddlers looking for a fast buck, a spokesman for major US software makers said yesterday.

Copyright infringement long has been a problem world-wide. And organisational users are by far the biggest offenders, accounting for about 75 per cent of all illegally copied material, said Douglas E. Phillips, president of the Washington-based Business Software Association.

BSA was formed last year to protect copyrights. It co-operates with the authorities in Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore

and elsewhere to fight software piracy, and represents manufacturers Aldus, Ashton-tate, Autodesk, Lotus, Microsoft and Wordperfect.

At a news conference, Phillips said software piracy is not merely the sale of illegitimate copies by backstreet merchants. Unauthorised internal copying of software by large corporations and organisations is notorious, and BSA intends to hit back at them, he said.

Responding to pressure from the United States, Singapore tightened its copyright laws in April 1987 in an attempt to end this island republic's reputation as one of the hubs of pirated music tapes, videocasset-

tes, computer software and other items.

In 1985, pirated cassettes accounted for 90 per cent of all tape sales in this country. The 1984 band aid charity recording of "Do They Know It's Christmas," produced to aid famine victims in Ethiopia, was pirated in Singapore two weeks after it was released in Britain.

The law now presumes that those who have five or more illegally copied items intend to sell them. Such offenders can be fined up to 100,000 Singapore dollars (\$51,020) and imprisoned for up to five years.

Many music and video pirates were closed down, but BSA estimates that about \$2 million worth of computer busi-

ness still is lost in Singapore each year by original software manufacturers. Fake software is available at about 10 per cent of the cost of originals.

In raids at five retail locations Wednesday by police and BSA representatives, authorities confiscated faked material worth 600,000 dollars (\$306,122) if sold at the price of legitimate products.

"Singapore has some of the best and strongest (copyright) laws in the world," Phillips said.

BSA has taken legal action against large business firms in Italy and France for unauthorised copying of software, he said. Corporate copying occurs everywhere but "Italy is unsurpassed," he said.

Bombay Stock Exchange prices (Rs) Nov 23			
Pr. Close	Open	Close	
ACC	320	313	309
Alem Chem	—	—	—
Alw Nis	—	—	—
Ari Fab	—	—	—
Ashtek Ltd	93	91	92
Asia Paint	202.50	202.50	193.75
Atlas Cop	46	45	44
Auto Corp	385.24	—	384.73
Bajaj Auto	328.75	323.75	328.75
Bar Rayon	750	742.50	720
Blow Plast	—	—	—
Bom Dye	144	144.50	146
BK Bond	111.50	109	108.50
Burr Wd	95	90	95
Cambare	—	—	—
Cen Enka	3340	3340	3270
Index for 22/11	2600	2590	2575
Cen Sps	185	183.75	177.50
Colgate	1300	1275	1275
Crompt Gr	13	11	12
DCM	27	26.5	27
Deep Fert	68	63	67
Dunlop	64	62.50	64
El Hotels	77	76	77
Escorts	715.00	711.69	711.69
ESL Ind	112.50	111.25	112.50
Essar Sps	23.25	23	23
Food Spl	105	103.75	101.25
Forbes	49.50	48	50
Gar Poly	51.30	51.30	49.50
GL Index	100	99	97
GNFC	36	35.50	35
Grasim	108.25	107.50	107
Index for 22/11	47.50	47.25	46.75
QES Sps	178.75	178.75	180
GEFC	75	74.75	74.50
Guj Alki	11	10	11
Guj Heavy	—	—	—

Nikkei stock average: 3484.47			
(+197.45)			
Yen exchange rate: 143.80			
Name of stock	CI	Ch	
Advantest Corp	4820	+76	
Ajinomoto	2870	+10	
Alps Electric	1820	+10	
Amada	1980	+10	
Asahi Chem Ind	1220	+10	
Asahi Glass	1280	+20	
C. Itoh & Co.	1080	-10	
Canon Inc.	1770	+30	
Casio Comp	1470	+30	
D N Printing	2340	0	
Daisai Seiyun	2780	+40	
Dainippon Ph	1760	+30	
Daihatsu Corp	2200	+60	
Fanuc Ltd	7410	-40	
Fuji Photo	4360	-10	
Fujitsu Ltd	1460	-20	
Hitachi Credit	1930	+30	
Hitachi Koki	1950	0	
Hitachi Ltd	1480	+20	
Hitachi Metal	1730	+20	
Honda Motor	1810	+30	
Ito Yokado Co	4330	0	
Kanagawa H I	2310	+30	
Kawasaki H I	1070	+10	
Kobe Cast Iron	1050	+10	
Kokusai Elec	3540	+40	
Komatsu Ltd	1360	0	
Kyocera Corp	5900	+40	
Matsui	3550	+40	
Matsushita Ind	2990	+20	
Mats Electric	2270	+10	
Mazda M C	990	0	
Mitsubishi Corp	1660	0	
Mitsubishi Estate	2380	-30	
Mitsubishi H I	1140	+20	
Miyagi R E	3190	+30	
Mitsui Bussan	4920	+10	
Mori Seiki Co.	4140	0	
NEC Corp	1740	-10	
Nippon Corp	1430	+10	
Nippon Shin Co	1730	+20	
Nippon Steel Corp	767	+12	
Nippondenso	2420	+30	
Nitaku Corp	1440	+20	

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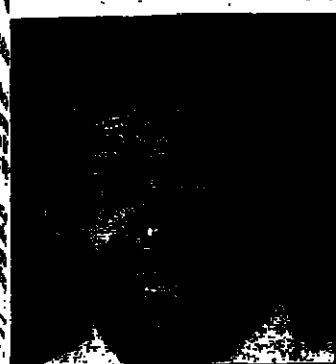
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# FCC looking forward to 1990



Buddy Patungan

THE Filipino Cultural Club (FCC), with the combined efforts of all its officers and members, is always on the lookout for ways and means to pursue its commitment to the Filipino community in Kuwait.

**Social activities**  
Aside from promoting good-will and offering wholesome entertainment, by the means of "cultural" projects designed to

reach out to the public, the FCC also carries out "social" activities catering to the less-privileged members of the Filipino community.

On Thursday, Nov 9, 1989, members of the FCC board paid a visit to the Philippine inmates detained at the Dajla Police Station, brought them food and spent some time talking and discussing their problems that, perhaps, the FCC, in its own way, could help to ease out from the inmates' burden. As it is, their main problem is the scarcity of food and lack of proper facilities, among others. The FCC board decided to undertake a "help campaign" by way of, at least, providing them food on a regular schedule. Another visit was done on the next Thursday after that, Nov 16, 1989, and forthcoming visits are planned from thereon.

**Executive director's leave**  
Engr Salvador B. Patungan, executive director of the Filipino Cultural Club, will be going for his annual leave starting Dec 1,

1989. After spearheading the FCC in its various projects and activities during the year, dating back from its inception, and putting in so much of his dedicated efforts and never-ending energy in his aim to lead the club in executing its goals and objectives to its fullest dimensions, Buddy is going for a much deserved vacation. However, although he will be away for a month to join his family for the holiday season, he will also be carrying out his job as FCC executive director while in the Philippines, by being on the lookout for worthy projects for the club to pursue, once he comes back to Kuwait.

During Buddy's absence, FCC activities and on-goings will be carried out as usual under the helm of his deputy executive director, Lito Matig-a, who will also be acting in his behalf, aside from being the club's director for social and cultural affairs.

**Fiesta Extravaganza '89**  
Preparations for FCC's Christmas Special are now going

in full blast, with all the FCC performers going through rigid rehearsals, and other members go through their respective duties and responsibilities as members of the different production committees.

Engr Buddy Patungan, in his capacity as executive director, and Florence Delos Santos, the ever-ready directress of finance, have also lent their helping hands in the solicitation of sponsors. At the same time, Delos Santos has also been generous enough to allow the use of the Mabuhay Restaurant/Ballroom of the Carlton Hotel for rehearsals. Fiesta Extravaganza '89 (an FCC Christmas Special) is set for presentation on Dec 8, 1989 at the Al Fintas Poolside of the Hotel Meridien from 5 pm. Aside from a special show and dinner/dance, there will also be a raffle draw with valuable prizes at stake. Directors of the Christmas show are Messrs Jun Sta. Maria and Lolita Matig-a. Proceeds of the project will be



Florence Delos Santos

used to finance the club's welfare projects and other forthcoming productions.

A limited number of tickets are available at the following outlets owned and managed by Florence Delos Santos: Mabuhay Restaurant/Carlton Hotel (tel. 2436121), Mabuhay Hair Salon for Men & Women (Tel. 2420534), Samar Grocery (Tel. 2404849) and the Philippine Gift Shop (Tel. 2439451).

## BBC world service highlights

### Aid with a Human Face

THIS year is the 30th anniversary of Voluntary Service Overseas, the organisation founded as a means of bringing the human element into aid schemes for developing countries. For this celebratory programme John Pickford travelled to the Gambia, in West Africa, where he spoke to people working in the field about the modern face of VSO. He also meets some early volunteers many of whom were taking a year off before going on to university.

Sunday, November 26 at 19.15 and Monday, November 27 at 10.30 and 16.30.  
Frequencies: 17.64 MHz/17.01m; 15.01 MHz/19.91m; 11.76 MHz/25.51m.

### Globe Theatre: Redevelopment

In a crumbling castle, set in a mediaeval town which has been designated a slum, a group of architects are given a tantalising vision of artistic freedom before being plunged once more into a bureaucratic nightmare. Martin Jarvis, Penelope Wilton and John Moffat star in this week's Globe Theatre production written by the Czech author Vaclav Havel who has himself suffered several periods of harassment and imprisonment for writings which have been judged to be subversive.

Sunday, November 26 at 14.30.

Frequencies: 17.64 MHz/17.01m; 15.01MHz/19.91m; 11.76 MHz/25.51m.

### The Vintage Chart Show

WORLD Service presents Dave Lee Travis and Paul Burnett once recorded a country 'a truckin' spoof under the name of Laurie Lingo and the Dipsticks. The song was a Convoy GB and it reached number 4 in the UK Top Ten. But that's one record Paul will not be playing in this week's edition of The Vintage Chart Show which focuses on the year 1975. Saturday, November 25 at 06.30 and Monday, November 27 at 13.30 and 23.30.  
Frequencies: 17.64MHz/17.01m; 15.07MHz/19.91m; 11.76MHz/25.51m.

### Quote Unquote

'A MAN'S most dangerous moment is when he's getting into his shirt.' Team members Michael Bentine, Benny Green, Sheila Hancock and Liz Loch-head are quizzed on their knowledge of this and other quotations when the popular panel game returns under the chairmanship of Nigel.

Sunday, November 26 at 06.30, Monday, November 27 at 20.15 and Wednesday, November 29 at 11.30.

## Flassik fullfill commitment

THE executive board of the 1989 Filipino Ladies Association in Kuwait will host "Thursday Night Fever" on Nov 30, 1989 at the Meridien Hotel's Al Jahra Ballroom. The interaction evening starts at 9.30 pm and is organised by Flassik for those desiring to have a wonderful time while at the same time allowing them an opportunity to contribute towards Flassik's welfare projects which assists the distressed Filipino workers in Kuwait. Tickets are still available for those who have not queued for their own tickets which are reasonably priced. Flassik endeavours to continue to reach out to all sectors of the working Filipino population and help the Filipino assuage some of the homesickness they are feeling as the year season approaches. Flassik guarantees a wonderful time with non-stop disco music for all who will attend the event.

Meanwhile, Flassik '89 president, Grace F.E.N. Ovarubias and her cohesively dynamic executive board received a "Thank you" letter from Susan Cabading, who hails from San Jose del Monte, Flassik, from the contributions of the Filipino community and friends donated cash for her fare home to the province. Her case was judiciously followed up by the office of the Labour Attache and OWWA; here is the gist of her letter postmarked Nov 3, 1989.

"Dearest Grace,  
Sandy dahan ka ng sulat kong



Flassik and friends on their hospital visit, keeping their commitment of service to the Filipino community.

ito na nasa mabuting kalaga yan at ang iba mong kasamahan ayon na tumulong sa akin. Ako'y nag-arang sa Filipinas na mapayapa at akoy lubos na nagpapasalamat sa Flassik.

Meaning:  
Dear Grace  
I hope this letter finds you in good health and spirit; and also those of your companions who helped me. I arrived in the Philippines peacefully and I extend my whole hearted greetings thanks to Flassik.  
Yours,

Susan Cabading.

Watch for Flassik '89 Christmas Carol Concert under the Filipino Choir's multitalented Gilda G. Navarro whose members' melodious voices will surely bring the spirit of Christmas to those who are unable to make it home for the holiday season in the Philippines. It's a date then, for those yearning to have their very own Christmas concert here. The programme is choreographed by Flassik director Esther B. Madamba.

## TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

### KTV 1

#### MORNING

9.30 The Opening and Holy Quran  
9.40 Sabah Al Kher news and variety  
9.55 Around the World: cartoon serial  
10.15 Magazine D'Actualite (repetition)  
10.30 Fi Muntasaf Al Lail: Local serial (part 12)  
11.35 Sabah Al Kher news and variety  
12.00 Min Matbakhi: Local programme  
12.30 News Summary  
12.35 Holy Quran and closedown

#### EVENING

4.00 The Opening and Holy Quran  
4.15 The World Today via Satellite (repetition)  
4.45 Cartoon serial (part 1)  
5.15 The Young Artist: Local children programme  
5.45 Night chemists, airlines and official advertisements  
6.15 Al Islam Hadhara: Religious serial (part 17)  
7.15 Noor Al Islam: religious programme, prepared and presented by Ahmed Abdul Qader  
7.35 Cultural programme

8.00 Security and Citizens: Local serial, prepared by the Public Relations Department at the Ministry of Interior  
8.30 Good Evening and local news  
9.00 News in Arabic  
9.45 Saber: Arabic serial (part 1) starring Khaleel Shawqi, Fawzi Mahdi, Hend Kamel, Ghazwa Al Khaleel

10.35 Al Haat: Local serial (part 2) starring Ibrahim Al Salal, Ahmad Al Saleh, Aesha Ibrahim, Zainab Al Dhahi and Sulaiman Yaseen  
11.45 News summary  
11.50 The World Today via Satellite  
12.15 Holy Quran and closedown

### KTV 2

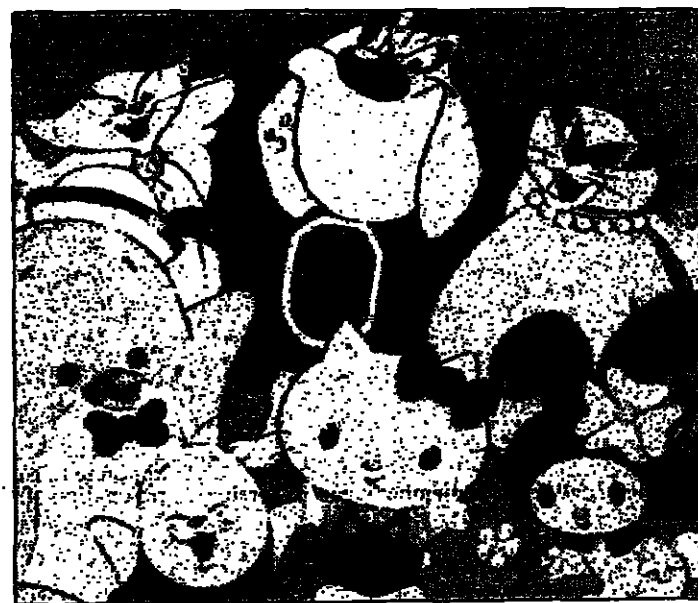
6.00 Opening Announcement and Holy Quran  
6.10 Hello Kitty: A cartoon series for children  
6.30 The Story-Teller: "Hans My Hedgehog." The king lost his way in the forest and promised to reward Hans for saving his life.  
7.00 A Day in the Life: "The

Weasel." A look at weasels which are considered very active. Always on alert and prefer to live separately.  
7.30 Out of this World.

8.00 News in English  
8.30 Diamonds: "Coming of Age." A girl-student is found murdered on the site of a new charitable school to be built by donations paid by the girl's

grandfather. Mike and Christine have to solve the mystery.  
9.30 The Infinite Voyage: "Life in the Balance." A look at the latest scientific investigations into the laboratories of our world... outer space, the interior of human mind, the genetic code of life...

10.30 Feature film.  
12.00 News in Brief  
12.15 Magazine D'Actualite



KTV2: Hello Kitty

## NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait  
Cairo  
Fahd Al Salem St.  
Kawthar  
Abdulla Al Mubarak St.  
Hawalli & Nagra  
Al Sabah  
Nagra, Othman St.  
Salmiya & Rumailiya  
Deena  
Extension of Amman St.  
Fahsheel & Almadadi  
Sadaf  
Fahsheel, Makkah St.  
Farwaniya  
Madina  
Northern St.  
Jahra  
Zahra  
New market

## PRAYERS

Al Andalus  
Arabic film  
Salmiya  
Space Mutiny  
Al Hamra  
Arabic film  
Drive-in  
Arabic film  
Al Firdous  
Cocktail  
Fahsheel Open  
Aarzo  
Fahsheel  
Witness  
Al Jahra  
Oliver Twist  
Granada  
Three the Hard Way  
Salaikhah  
Arabic film  
Jeeb  
Dowtham  
Ahmadi Drive-in  
Funny Farm

## ARTS

**Islamic Art**  
A SIX week — 12 lecture course on Islamic Art will be given in English at the Dar Al Ahar Al Islamiyyah on Sunday and Tuesday mornings from 10.00 - 12.00 noon. October 29 through December 5, 1989.

An eight week — eight lecture course on Islamic Art will be given in Arabic at the Dar Al Ahar Al Islamiyyah on Monday afternoons from 4.00 - 6.00 pm from October 30 through December 19, 1989.

To register for either of these courses please sign up at the Dar Al Ahar during museum hours 8.30 am - 12.30 pm.

**Watercolour Painting**  
LEARN watercolour painting with Patricia Mills. New 8 week course in Drawing & Painting for adults. For details tel: 561847.

**Seminar**  
THERE will be a seminar at the DAA on "Arabic & European Art in the Light of Zodiacal Symbolism" December 10, 1989 - January 10, 1990. Sunday and Tuesday 11.00 - 12.30 am. Anyone wishing to register for this seminar may do so at the DAA during museum hours.

## SOCIAL

**Shared Mea**  
AFTER successfully organising Deep-Dewail Satkar is now going to organise Shared Mea at Indian Arts Circle, Funnites on 1st December 1989, at 10.00 am. There will be food stalls of delicious cuisines along with fun and games stalls for children. The big attraction will be two Grand Rattle Draws with a Game of Bingo. For entry passes and further information contact, Brij Vallabh - 2510146, or V.K. Agarwal - 5728621.

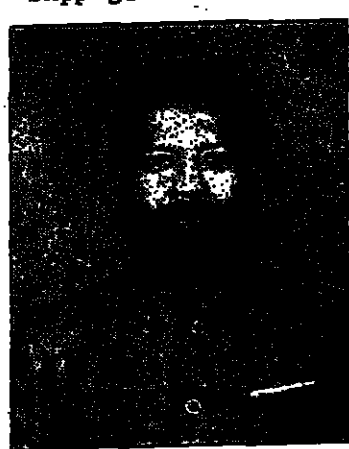
**Kuwait Cultural Centre**  
THE Kuwait Cultural Centre is opening a French Language course to be held on Saturdays and Mondays. For further detail please contact 5624393.

**Yuletide Fayre**  
Do not miss the Yuletide Fayre being organised by St Paul's Church, Ahmadi from 2 pm to 5 pm on the afternoon of Friday, 1st December at the British embassy compound. There will be stalls for Christmas gifts, handicrafts and books as well as for cakes and preserves. There will be entertainment, including Santa Claus, for the children. Refreshments will be available.

**Get-together**  
SOUTHERNERS welcome one another to a family get-together at Le Mirage Hotel at the Ramada Al Salam hotel on 22 December at 10 am.

**Jazz Night**  
NOV 29: In response to overwhelming demand, once again Phil Thomas and the "High Spirits" will be extending their "jazzical" repertoire for your enjoyment. From 8pm to 12 midnight. Phone: 5640981.

**Musical Show**  
DEC 1: Musical entertainment show at Doha Entertainment City in 'Starlight Theatre' with live rock 'n' roll, pop and reggie music from the most popular dynamic groups of Kuwait: "Top Ranks" and "Stepping Stones".



**Oh to be in Goa**  
DEC 1: Kuwait Goans Association will hold an exhibition of cartoons by Alexy at Indian Embassy auditorium on Friday Dec 1, 89 at 10 am. All are cordially invited for a free ride to Goa by Alexy who will be in Kuwait for the opening ceremony.

**Hobby centre**  
New Courses in Jewellery making and design for adults.  
For children there is Pottery starting next month for 6 weeks. Tel: 5618847, 5317354.

**Steps Ballet School**  
DEC 9: At the Kuwait English School at 6pm to 7.30pm, the Steps Ballet School will stage a display showing the Royal Academy of Dance's graded syllabus work, performed by the students. If you are interested in watching this display with your daughter, please ring 5386481 9-12 noon only and request seats. Seats are limited to guests, and early booking is advisable. There is no charge but guests must be booked in advance. Registration for January 1990 is now ongoing for girls aged 4-15 years.

**Carnival Night**  
The long waited Carnival Night will be held for the first time in Kuwait with popular bands "Top Ranks" and "Perfect Strangers" vibrating up the Carnival Spirit to bring out their best music ever. So all you folks look ahead for more details through this column for the precise date in the month of February, 1990.

**Kuwait Goans**  
DEC 15: Annual children's X'mas tree function will be held at the Messilah Beach Hotel on Friday, December 15, '89 from 9.30 am onwards. Lots of prizes and surprises await for one and all. Top Ranks in attendance.

To avoid disappointment call for your early bookings on 2413348.

**Aravali Restaurant Singing Contest**  
TO all of you who love singing!!!

DEC 1: Grand Final of the Autumn Sing-Along Contest at 6.30 pm.

DEC 3: Every Friday and Sunday 6.30 and 7.30 respectively, there will be the Christmas Carols Sing-Along Contest. Its grand final will be on Friday December 22, with surprise gifts. Rush register your name and song title on 2402540 or 2428284.

**Children's competition at IAC**  
THE result of the qualifying round of the children's competition held in Indian Arts Circle were already announced on 17-11-1989. The results are displayed in all schools and Indian Arts Circle. The finals will take place on 30-11-89, 15-12-89, 27-12-89, 28-12-89 at Indian Arts Circle. For more information please contact on telephone nos. 3904817 or 5622559.

**Fancy Dress Competition**  
THE joint annual family get-together of incredible S.C. and Young Men Cultural Association on Dec 8th, starting at 9.30 am sharp has been shifted from the earlier venue to the Kuwait Regency Palace for the convenience of all members. Live music will be provided by Top Ranks, free gifts from Santa and also a fancy dress competition starting at 10.30 am sharp. Lots of prizes and surprises too! Members may collect their passes from the Managing Committee or contact Joe on 3981790 or Satu 3921712.

**Exhibition**  
AN exhibition of superb replicas of trees and plants which uniquely couple lifelike fabric foliage with natural trunks and branches. Select for more than 20 different varieties of plants and trees for the size space. On display at the lower lobby of the Kuwait International Hotel. Details at : 2407029.

**May Day! May Day!**  
THE Kuwait International Hotel is now embarrassed with the size of the turkey they have obtained for their Thanksgiving dinner on the 23rd of November. It has arrived safe, sound and healthy but the 67 pounder measuring about two feet square refuses to enter the hotel's oven... because the oven doors are only 16 inches x 18 inches. They have less than 72 hrs to go and the kitchen brigade is in a state of panic. A brainstorming session is on and a solution is yet to be made. A dinner for two on Thanksgiving Night is offered to anybody who can suggest some way of cooking the bird intact!

**Sinbad the Sailor**  
KUWAIT Little Theatre, Ahmadi, proudly presents their traditional pantomime extravaganza — Sinbad the Sailor. Tickets are now on sale at reasonable prices for the following performances: Gala Night 5th Dec at 7pm, Evening performances on 6th and 13th Dec at 7 pm. Matinee performances on 7th, 8th, 14th and 15th Dec at 2 and 5 pm. Ring 3919759 NOW to avoid disappointment.

**Kalpak's Symposium**  
THE Kalpak (Kerala Arts & Literature Promoting Association of Kuwait) is organising a symposium on "The Impact of Literature on the Socio Cultural Developments" which will be held on 8.12.89 at 4 pm in the Indian embassy hall.  
We are pleased to invite the Malaysian society in Kuwait for their active participation.

Kalpak scholarships declared for the two young talented artists will also be awarded on this occasion by Varghese G, first secretary of Embassy of India.

**GCA nite**  
LOOK out for the notice for Eid celebrations organized by the GOA Cultural Association at the Ramada Al Salam.

**Xmas celebrations**  
DEC 15: United Goan's Centre will have their annual X'mas celebrations at the Al Salam Hotel on Friday December 15th '89 from 10 am onwards (Al Deira). Special package of fun, games awaits the young as well as the old. A variety of entertainment for the children. Call on us for early booking and avoid disappointment. Contact Tony: 2612024/ Moses: 224293.

**Laser Sailing at KSSC**  
HAMPEL/Khorat open dingy regatta on Nov 30 and Dec 1. Open to Lasers, 470's and Keelboats. Sailors wishing to compete please contact the following for further details: D. Clark: 4845171 (O), 2451791 (H) or R. Brown: 4736167 (O), 5325139 (H). Briefing times: 30/11 at 14.30 hrs and 1/12 at 08.00 hrs.

**British Council**  
85th birthday tribute to Graham Greene — The British Council is holding an 85th Birthday Tribute to Graham Greene with an exhibit of a set of poster about his life and works during the whole month of November. On 25 Nov and Sunday, 26th Nov, film adaptations of "Brighton Rock" and "The Human Factor" will be shown at the Gallery starting at 5.00 pm. Admission is free but please book seats by calling 2515512; 2533204; 2533227.

**Ladies International League**  
UPCOMING EVENTS:  
Newcomers meeting: Monday 27th November '89, from 9.30 am to 12 noon in the Blue Room at the Sheraton Hotel. There will be a very small charge at the door. For further details please call Ann 5316905.

**SECOND GENERAL MEETING:** Our programme will be a winter party and mini bazaar, in Ballroom A at the Sheraton Hotel 7pm - 10pm on Tuesday 5th December '89. There will be a small charge at the door. All ladies are welcome. Please no children. Raffle, door prizes as well as lots of other prizes too. For further details please call Ann 5316905 or Dianne 5335598.

**Filipino Choral Group**  
DEC 16: The spirit of Christmas is just around the corner and the Filipino Choral Group in its traditional bid to bring cheer, love and goodwill to all Christians in Kuwait will present a 30-minute repertoire of English and Filipino Christmas carols on December 16, 5 pm at the Holy Family Cathedral.

This prelude to the first day of Misa de Gallo is organised by Ed Oraz and to be conducted by Hilda Navarro-both working as medical technologists in Farwaniya Hospital.

**Daniella Children's Party**  
ALL Dances in Kuwait are invited for the annual children's party "Juletrae" to be held at the Gazelle Club on Friday December 15 at 3 pm. Tickets to be purchased from Inge on 3727688 ext 207 or Winnie on 5733382 before December 10.

**December Delights**  
DEC 8: Expatriates Club announces its Yuletide gala-social for children and adults at the SAS 'Tent' Hotel from 0930 hours onwards. Gifts for all children, fancy dress, hamper prizes, lunch buffet, gifts, prizes and surprises from the sponsors and the club. Book early for table reservations. Wilson 3918938, Val 5614506 (after 4 pm) and Tony 5655056 (after 5 pm). Music by Stepping Stones.

**German Speaking Cultural Association**  
WE want to inform all our German speaking society and their friends about two forth coming events. The first will be the WINTER GALA at the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel in the Grand Ballroom on Wednesday November 29 at 8.00 pm. It will include an exquisite buffet and valuable prizes. Tickets are available at the German and Austrian embassies, the German school, the German library, and on the 29th from the Sheraton from 7 pm onwards.

The second event will be our traditional BAZAAR for all with beautiful handicrafts. This will be on November 30 at 5 pm in the Kuwait International Hotel's Old Failaka Room.

**Star Nite**  
DEC 21: Star Nite Stepping Stones have stepped in and it's going to be a nite to celebrate Yuletide. Fun fare for children and variety programme for others starting from 5-8.30 pm and goes on from 9 pm until sumptuous buffet mid-night. A galore of prizes with Hamper lucky draws under 555 sponsorship invitations with Shop No. 34 ex New Super Market and contact Tel: 5331940, 2413706 (res).

## SPORTS

**Open Badminton Tournament**  
IT is with great pleasure that we once again give this open invitation to all badminton players in Kuwait to take part in the annual Open Badminton Tournament.

The tournament will be held between Saturday, November 25th and Thursday November 30th, 1989 at the KOC Sports Centre Ahmadi.

Timings for each day's play will be as follows:  
Saturday 25th, November through Wednesday 29th November (1900 hrs to 2200 hrs.)

**Y.M.C.A. DEC 8: Incredible**  
Y.M.C.A. Annual family gathering at "Le Mirage" Ballroom — Ramada Al Salam Hotel on the 8th of Dec '89 from 10 am onwards. With live music from Top Ranks. Free gifts from Santa, games & fancy dress competition for children. Lots of prizes & surprises for everyone!  
For reservations contact: Joe 3981790 (3 to 5 pm), Satu 3921712 (6 to 8 pm).

**Swimming/Life saving**  
Swimming/Life saving courses with Royal Life Saving Society coach and grade 1 examiner will be commencing at Messilah Beach Hotel club. For more details please phone ext. 739/751.

**Yoga morning classes**  
MESSILAH Beach Hotel yoga morning classes will commence Tuesday, November 28, at 9.30 am, 5 classes KD 10/- to register contact 5624111 ext 739/751.

● All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursdays, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.



# Stansfield still leading

## 'All Around the World'

LONDON, (AP): Lisa Stansfield topped the British pop singles chart for the fourth straight week with "All Around the World," fending off a challenge from "You Got It" by New Kids on the Block which marked a second week in second place.

This week's top 10 singles, as rated by Our Price Music Ltd, the national music retail chain, with last week's positions in parentheses:

- (1) All Around The World — Lisa Stansfield (Artist).
- (2) You Got It — New Kids on the Block (CBS).
- (3) Don't Know Much — Linda Ronstadt and Aaron Neville (Elektra).
- (4) Another Day in Paradise — Phil Collins (Virgin).
- (5) What The World Is Waiting For — Stone Roses (Silvertone).
- (15) Pacific State — Bob State (ZTT).
- (6) Grand Piano — Mixmaster (BGM).
- (23) Lambard — Kaoma (CBS).
- (5) Girl I'm Gonna Miss You — Milli Vanilli (Cool Tempo).
- (24) Homely Girl — UB40 (DEP International).

Milli Vanilli one on US pop record chart  
NEW YORK, (AP): Milli Vanilli took over the top of the pop singles record chart in the United States on Wednesday with "Blame It On The Rain." The disc hopped to the top from second spot a week ago.

"Angelia" by Richard Marx jumped three notches to second position on the Cash Box magazine chart. Paula Abdul stayed at third for the second week in a row with "The Way That You Love Me."

Last week's number one hit, "When I See You Smile" by Bad English, topped to fifth.

Two newcomers made their way onto the top 10 pop list this week — "Poison" by Alice Cooper, up from 11th to 8th; and

"Back To Life" by Soul to Soul, up from 14th to 10th.  
As for the country and western singles, Dolly Parton's "Yellow Roses" topped the Cash Box magazine chart. Eddy Raven's "Bayou Boys" was second, and "If Tomorrow Never Comes" by Garth Brooks was third.

The top 10 singles, as rated by Cash Box magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

- (2) Blame It On The Rain — Milli Vanilli (Artist).
- (5) Angelia — Richard Marx (EMI).
- (3) The Way That You Love Me — Paula Abdul (Virgin).
- (6) Love Shack — B-52s (Reprise).
- (1) When I See You Smile — Bad English (Epic).
- (8) We Didn't Start The Fire — Billy Joel (Columbia).
- (4) Listen To Your Heart — Roxette (EMI).
- (11) Poison — Alice Cooper (Epic).
- (10) Get On Your Feet — Gloria Estefan (Epic).
- (14) Back To Life — Soul to Soul (Virgin).

The top 10 country-western singles, as rated by Cash Box magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

- (3) Yellow Roses — Dolly Parton (Columbia).
- (4) Bayou Boys — Eddy Raven (Universal).
- (6) If Tomorrow Never Comes — Garth Brooks (Capitol).
- (5) The Race Is On — Sawyer Brown (Capitol-Curb).
- (12) It's Just A Matter Of Time — Randy Travis (Warner Brothers).
- (10) Two Dozen Roses — Shenandoah (Columbia).
- (7) The Vows Go Unbroken (Always True To You) — Kenny Rogers (Reprise).
- (9) The Lonely Side Of Love — Patty Loveless (MCA).
- (1) An American Family — The Oak Ridge Boys (MCA).
- (11) I've Been Loved By The Best — Don Williams (RCA).

# Egyptian village artists — Fellah — coming to the fore

## Art combines modern angst with ancient symbols

CAIRO, (Reuters): An exciting new school of self-taught Egyptian village artists has come to the fore, often blending the anxiety of 20th-century life with ancient symbols.

In a series of brightly-coloured works called "Women of Today," Sayed Fayed uses fish, snakes, birds and eyes interspersed with grotesque images to express his view of women.

One shows a dancing woman with arms which turn into snakes. In another, a prostitute dangles a tiny man from a hook in her mouth. In others, he uses birds, hands, fish and even crosses to depict peace and security.

Fayed, whose paintings went on display in Cairo this month, is one of several self-taught artists slowly gaining recognition in Egypt.

For years, state control and Western influence left little room for village painters who took their inspiration from their history and surroundings.

"An artist in the past 20 years had to study and forget his roots," said West German art specialist Ursula Schernig.

"They were told they had to copy European paintings. They had to forget what they learned in the villages. Now for the past year or so it has been changing."

Schernig, who has just organised an exhibition in West Ger-

many of four "Fellah" or peasant artists, spends her time going round villages looking for undiscovered artists.

She said the paintings had a unique quality, drawing inspiration from 5,000 years of history, even when the artists themselves were barely educated.

"Egypt has a special history from Pharaonic, to Coptic, Greek, Christian, Roman, Turkish, French, English, Arabic and Islamic and that makes a special mix that shows in the paintings," she said.

Her first discovery came four years ago with the art of Sheikh Ramadan, a Bedouin farmer from a village south of Cairo.

A wizened smiling man, aged about 65 and dressed in a long djellabah and white cap, Sheikh Ramadan said that he painted for years without anyone looking at his work.

"I started drawing on anything, even cigarette packets," he said. "Nobody knew I was drawing. I used to do it at the end of the day or at night. I didn't realise what I was doing."

At first he used sticks dipped in reddish-grey manganese soil or children's paints. He kept colours in the tops of Cola bottles. Then he went to Cairo and a relative brought him paper and paints.

"I would start drawing and get



Sayed Fayed, one of a number of self-taught village artists slowly gaining recognition in Egypt, poses in front of one of his paintings. The painting shows a man and a woman whirling around the eye of a hurricane, never meeting. (Reuters wirephoto)

so involved that even when they brought me tea I would let it go cold," he said.

Now he paints vast colourful canvasses, with hundreds of people picked out in painstaking

detail, each telling a story. He has little formal education. His ideas come either from the Holy Quran or from Bedouin folklore — where stories sometimes overlap with those of

the Old Testaments. One painting tells the story of Joseph and his multi-coloured coat.

"You find all the layers of Egyptian history in his drawings," Schernig said.

Other works by village artists come from daily life, such as a painting of a woman hanging out her washing on a rooftop or a sculpture of an old man gaping — inspired by a man's face as three scantily-clad tourists walked by.

Occasionally they are political. In one of Fayed's sketches an Israeli has a Palestinian woman draped over his shoulders. She hangs backwards, her belly caught in a hook. A line of red blood streaks down the black and white sketch.

Fayed's exhibition in Cairo focused mainly on women and modern life in sometimes frenzied works which reflect a bitterness, he says, after he separated from his wife four years ago.

Using gouache on paper, he paints a woman with long hair, big eyes and fangs instead of teeth. Another shows a man and a woman whirling around the eye of a hurricane, never meeting.

"All of them are thinking about marrying someone rich. Money is the main problem of modern life in Cairo," said Fayed, who started out making tourist trinkets.

"And now it is spreading into the countryside. Money spoils everything. Money cancelled love. Even the beauty became ugly."



Rendell: people tell her their secrets. (Reuters wirephoto)

# Mystery writer fascinated by secrets

TORONTO, Nov 24, (Reuters): People tell Ruth Rendell their secrets.

"Yes they must be mad to tell me things would you?" says the British author of 32 mystery and suspense novels which have sold millions and been translated into 17 languages.

"I do use dialogue and I do use stories I hear," but never in direct form, she said in an interview.

"People write to me with plots and, of course, they don't work," said the 59-year-old writer, dressed in a tweed suit.

She was in Toronto recently to promote the Canadian launch of her latest novel, "The Bridesmaid," also available in Britain and the United States, and to read at Toronto's annual international festival of authors.

Secrets both repel and fascinate Rendell, whose readers expect tightly

crafted shockers that explore the psychological landscape of their characters.

At the heart of "The Bridesmaid," which one reviewer called "Rendell at her most seductively sinister," is the erotically obsessive relationship between Philip Wardman, a quiet young man who abhors violence, and Senta Pelham, a pale, slim actress fascinated with death and reincarnation.

She is one of the bridesmaids at his sister's wedding. Philip is irresistibly attracted by Senta and falls deeply in love with her, although he is concerned that she does seem to lie occasionally.

He becomes more than concerned when, declaring they are "twin souls" who exist "outside the law and beyond reason," she decides he must prove his love for her by killing

someone and she will do the same.

"Everything I have ever written had a strong element of surprise, shock or secrecy. I couldn't write only mood and atmosphere there has to be a great deal of drama in it," said Rendell.

Although disturbing secrets are part of her literary stock in trade, Rendell doesn't feel particularly comfortable with them in real life.

"I didn't especially like secrets as a child. We should avoid them if we can, but people do not," she said.

Some secrets are psychologically unhealthy, she continued. "There are things in families, like a child born illegitimately and the parentage kept secret. These things lead to unhealthy or ungenerous speculation and it's not a very good idea," she said emphatically.

Yet the reason she began writing

was to explore some of the darker, hidden recesses of the human mind.

"I like to write about illusion and the ways people delude themselves in order to survive. I like to create mysterious things and secrets. I like to see what I can do with it, approximate the reality," Rendell said.

Her approximations have won her so many fans that her British publishers recently celebrated the 25th anniversary of her first published novel with a party at a London hotel.

"I made a living from it. I keep my husband," Rendell declared, adding that he didn't at all mind being "kept."

Rendell is a disciplined writer who works in the morning and answers letters in the afternoon.

Her own reading ranges from Ford

Madox Ford's "The Good Soldier"

— "By Far My Favourite Book"

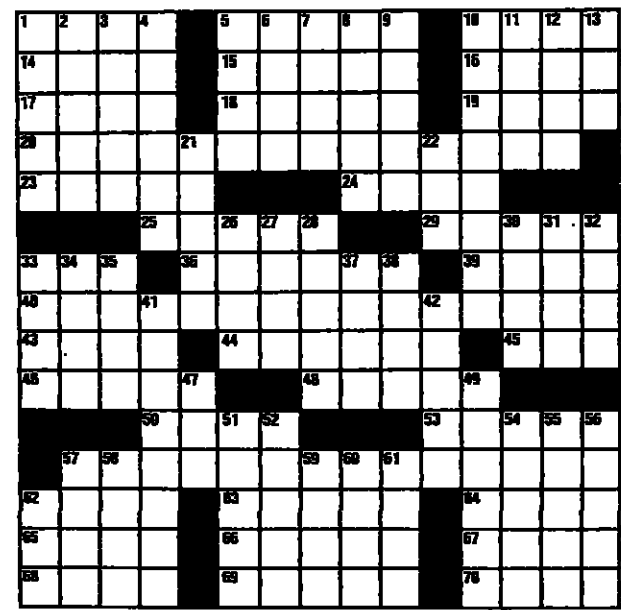
to Gabriel Garcia Marquez and Margaret Atwood.

"I don't like detective stories except for P.D. James. She made detective stories literature," said Rendell, whose 14 Inspector Wexford books are among the best of the genre and were dramatised on British television.

A great appetite for reading is the best training for a writer, said Rendell, whose parents were teachers and who worked briefly as a journalist for local publications before trying short stories.

"You read everything you can lay your hands on. A lot of people who want to be writers want fame and fortune they see it as a means to an end. People see writing as a formula and imagine a readership," she said.

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- |                               |                                 |                            |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ACROSS                        | 70 Descartes                    | 30 Curious                 |
| 1 Nail                        | DOWN                            | 31 "If — My Way"           |
| 5 Chic                        | 1 Yule visitor                  | 1913 song                  |
| 10 Mod hairdo                 | 2 Does farming                  | 32 Heifers                 |
| 14 Actress                    | 3 Crystalline                   | 33 WW II battle site       |
| Nazimova                      | 4 Emulates                      | 34 Got a bill              |
| 15 Divided land               | 5 Emulates                      | 35 Laundry unit            |
| 16 Marina sight               | 6 Card game                     | 37 Cubicle                 |
| 17 When both hands are up     | for three                       | 38 Düsseldorf donkey       |
| 18 Opera highlights           | 7 Seed coat                     | 41 Haunt                   |
| 19 Make heavy work of         | 8 "The Cloister and the Hearth" | 42 Roman                   |
| 20 Hawthorne collection       | author                          | 43 Graduate-to-be          |
| 23 Lou Grant                  | 9 Toothsome                     | 51 Michael Caine           |
| tray                          | 10 Music to an actor's ear      | 52 Cherished ones          |
| 24 Tropical wildcat           | 11 Rank's companion             | 54 Confuse                 |
| 25 Wooden shoe                | 12 Vintage cars                 | 55 Doll up                 |
| 29 Of ancient Carthage        | 13 Fort —, Calif.               | 56 Do a hair-dresser's job |
| 33 Impresario                 | 22 Noted                        | 57 Opera star              |
| Hurok                         | Dadaist                         | 58 Popular name in Oslo    |
| 36 Bridge holding             | 26 Lehr, of the movies          | 59 Tied                    |
| 39 London restaurant district | 27 Not fooled by                | 60 — but the brave         |
| 40 William Gibson play        | 28 Western resort               | 61 — bien                  |
| 43 Goneril's father           |                                 | 62 Took the bait           |
| 44 Used a chisel              |                                 |                            |
| 45 Grid distances, for short  |                                 |                            |

## ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

AREA SITEP ROIS  
LACTY THERE ANTI  
BRUT HELICOPTER  
SEMI EDE TUTOR  
ELIAS BIN  
TENANT CONCEPT  
EPI SENIOR EARED  
SECT RUNIC TOPE  
TEARS PECOS PEN  
SLANTED NAVIES  
ARIS ECLAT  
INDIRA ELI SIAM  
MARSEILLES SARI  
AMAT LEAVE ATEN  
METTS SANE LEIST

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠ A43 ♥ KQJ3 ♦ J73 ♣ J92  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
Pass Pass ?  
What action do you take?  
A.—In first or second seat, this is a doubtful opening bid. But it is a classic third-hand light opening of one heart regardless of whether you play four or five-card majors. You are bidding the suit you want led, and you can comfortably pass any response partner makes.

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠ 97652 ♥ J ♦ 63 ♣ 96542  
Partner opens the bidding in first seat with one club. What action do you take?  
A.—We know some who would respond one spade with this collection but, in the words of Samuel Goldwyn, "include us out!" That's asking for trouble. We doubt that the bidding will die at one club, but if it does and we miss game, that's life.

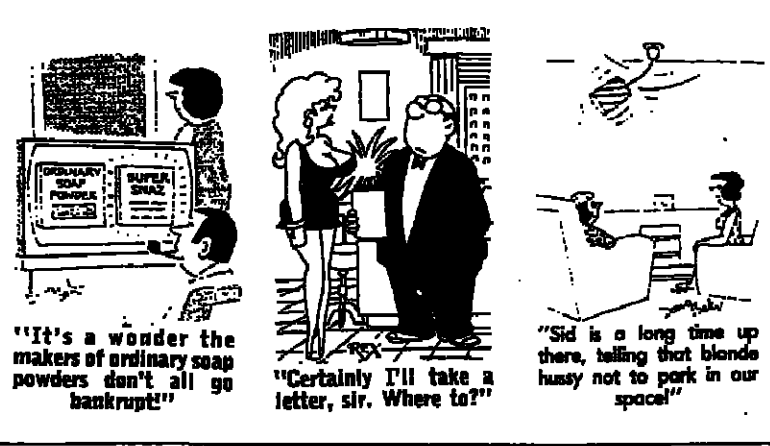
Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠ 97652 ♥ J ♦ 63 ♣ 96542  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♣ Pass Pass 1 ♥  
2 ♦ Pass ?  
What action do you take?  
A.—You have promised nothing when you actually have a pretty good hand. You have five-card support for partner's first suit and a host of ruffing values. Tell partner of your distributional assets by jumping to four clubs. Since you couldn't bid over one club, partner won't expect more than this.

Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South

you hold:  
♠ J9652 ♥ Q83 ♦ 7 ♣ K762  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♣ 1 ♦ ?  
What action do you take?  
A.—There used to be a theory that, to take a free bid now, you had to have a pretty good hand. However, that often led to your side getting frozen out of the auction. With a five-card major, a singleton and support for partner's suit, there is no danger in bidding one spade, so do it!

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠ AKJ105 ♥ J95 ♦ 7 ♣ KJ83  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♦ Pass 1 ♣ Pass  
2 ♦ Pass ?  
What do you bid now?  
A.—One of the features of your hand is that it is two-suited, and you should cue partner into the picture. Bid three clubs. Don't even think of any spade rebid—two spades shows a far weaker hand and a jump to three spades would promise at least a six-card suit.

Q.6—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠ Void ♥ 7 ♦ KQJ10654 ♣ A10952  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
Pass Pass ?  
What is your opening bid?  
A.—If partner has as little as the right ace and king, you could come to 12 tricks. However, with your pronounced shortness in the major suits this is unlikely to be your hand! Bid five diamonds, to make it as difficult as possible for the opponents to get into the auction.



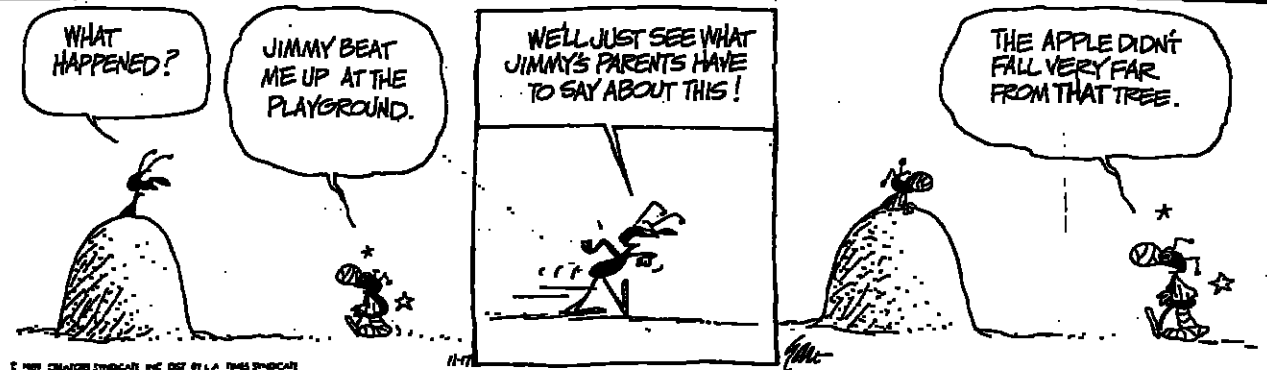
## THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



## B.C.

By Johnny Hart



## YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You should be on the lookout for mistakes, and your own. You will be able to get a lot done today. You will be better able to distinguish what is important from what is not. Be flexible.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

The Moon's better influence will help you to keep out of serious trouble. You should not neglect your emotional life. Do not yield to temptation. Be less solemn, but not frivolous.



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct. 22)

You will be liable to mistake what is not important for what is. Better a little more slowly than a lot more haphazardly. Listen more closely to what others have to say. Be less resentful.



Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

You should check on your facts. Do all you can to avoid getting into a vehement argument. No point in thinking negative thoughts. Be more considerate.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb. 18)

You should concentrate on doing what you have set out to do. You should not expect others to agree with everything you say. Try to avoid tensions and to resolve conflicts. Be magnanimous.



Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

You will have the independence needed to deal with the situation you are in. Do not blame others for what is fundamentally your own fault. It would be wrong to brood about what might have but did not happen. Be tactful.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will be better able to conserve your financial resources. You should make sure you learn the lesson of experience. Do your utmost to stay on good terms with your partner. Be generous.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You should try to avoid over-exercising yourself. However, that does not mean you should become lazy or inactive. Avoid dwelling too much on the past. Be more moderate.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You should have the courage of your convictions. Avoid trying to be too clever. You are all too liable to believe just what you would like to believe. Be sincere.



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

You should not spend too much time regretting what might have been. Try harder to understand what is on your partner's mind. Have more faith in yourself. Be attentive.



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

You should be able to make the right response. Do all you can to maintain and improve harmony with your partner. Avoid losing your temper or running out of patience. Be more constructive.



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct. 22)

You are a little too liable to make rash promises. Avoid spending too much time dealing with secondary matters. Try to keep your spirits and morale high. Be generous.



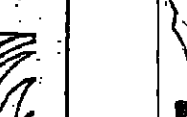
Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov. 21)

You are a little too liable to make rash promises. Avoid spending too much time dealing with secondary matters. Try to keep your spirits and morale high. Be generous.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

You will be able to make the right response. Do all you can to maintain and improve harmony with your partner. Avoid losing your temper or running out of patience. Be more constructive.



Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

You should check on your facts. Do all you can to avoid getting into a vehement argument. No point in thinking negative thoughts. Be more considerate.



# ARAB TIMES

## Classifieds

### ACCOMMODATION

#### Wanted

KUWAIT City, sharing accommodation with food required for one/two persons with RC Manager, family. Tel. Sabi, 2438993 ext. 3060, 7-30 am - 1.30 pm. (AT1-50427-3)

#### Available

KUWAIT City, opp. Plaza Hotel. Sharing accommodation for a single bachelor. Tel. Mohammed, 2422555 ext. 746, 8 am - 12 noon, 4.30 - 8.30 pm. (AT6-AAA-TM-2)

ABU HALFA, sea coast road. Sharing accommodation in a spacious furnished flat with kitchen and tele. facilities from 1st December for a bachelor. Rent KD55. Tel. 3725357. (AT6-50412-3)

#### For Rent

VILLA, ideal for an executive, 4 bedrooms, double reception, on garden view. For details tele. Abu Jasim, 4744266. (AT1-50418-3)

### FOR SALE

#### Computers

PC XT/286, Commodore, Atari computers with disk drives and software. Epson printer with single sheet feeder surge protected power supply board. Tel. Jawad, 5744483. (AT6-50406-3)

COMMODORE 128K with disk drive, 1570, cassette drive, many educational games etc. software and manuals and one bicycle. KD75 ono. Tel. 3712320. (AT5-50392-3)

#### Cars

CHEVROLET Spectrum, 1986, AC, automatic, white, low mileage, in excellent condition. KD1,100, cash. Tel. 5815494. (AT1-50426-3)

#### Wanted

**Salesman**  
For a large foodstuff company. Experience 3 years at least with driving licence and valid residence permit. Very good salary with commission. Tel. 2466330

#### REQUIRED

#### Air conditioning and electrical appliances technician

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2633892

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## SPORTS

## RUGBY

## All Blacks aim to beat Barbarians with style

LONDON, Nov 24. (Reuters): New Zealand, just one game away from completing a three-year unbeaten run, aim to win tomorrow's rugby union match against the Barbarians at Twickenham with style.

Traditionally the end-of-tour match between major touring sides and the star-studded Barbarians' invitation side has been an occasion for running rugby of the highest quality.

New Zealand have played their full part in six memorable encounters, with the best known being the 23-11 win by the Barbarians in Cardiff 16 years ago.

That match, a masterpiece of non-stop action, is still shown regularly on British television.

All Black coach Alex Wyllie, who played in the 1973 match, said this week: "People still talk about that game and use it as an example of the way rugby is played. It would be great if we could do that again — and win."

New Zealand have made only one change from the side who beat Wales and Ireland, calling up inside centre Walter Little to replace the injured Joe Stanley.

Little, only 20 years old, is an exciting prospect whose combination with John Schuster could cause the Barbarians all sorts of problems in midfield.

"The combination with John is working really well in training," Little said.

## Promise

"We'll probably be changing around during the game. It helps to confuse the opposition if you do that."

The first 20 minutes of the match promise to be as unremitting as any Test match as both sides strive to build a winning platform.

Barbarians' captain David Sole does not intend to let the festive nature of the game detract from his aim to show that the cream of British rugby can compete on equal terms with the world champions.

"The pride of British rugby is at stake and we can't have a cavalier attitude," Sole said. "I am very single-minded about wanting to win the game."

The home side include nine members of the British Lions team who beat Australia in a three-Test series this year and for good measure Australian captain and scrumhalf Nick Farr-Jones has been included.

The Barbarians also field two sets of brothers in England's Rory and Tony Underwood and Scotland's Gavin and Scott Hastings.

Tony Underwood, who will play on the opposite wing to his brother, is included in line with the Barbarian tradition of always selecting one uncapped player.

Teams: Barbarians — Gavin Hastings (Scotland); Rory Underwood (England); Jeremy Guscott (England); Scott Hastings (Scotland); Tony Underwood (Scotland); Craig Chalmers (Scotland); Nick Farr-Jones (Australia); Phil Davies (Wales); Gary Rees (England); Wade Dooley (England); Paul Ackford (England); Philip Matthews (Ireland); David Young (Wales); Brian Moore (England); David Sole (Scotland, captain).

New Zealand: John Gallagher; Craig Innes, Paul Little, John Schuster, Terry Wright; Grant Fox, Graeme Bachop; Wayne Shelford (captain); Mike Brewer, Gary Whetton, Murray Pierce, Andy Earl, Steve McDowell, Sean Fitzpatrick, Richard Lee.

## NFL games

NEW YORK, Nov 24. (Reuters): Results of National Football League (NFL) games played yesterday: Detroit Lions 13, Cleveland Browns 10; Philadelphia Eagles 27, Dallas Cowboys 0.

## Pakistan take control of 2nd Test

## Imran triggers Indian batting collapse

FAISALABAD, Pakistan, Nov 24. (Reuters): Imran Khan triggered an Indian batting collapse as Pakistan took control of the second cricket Test today.

Imran finished with four for 45 on the second day to send India tumbling from an overnight 200 for four to 288 all out.

Pakistan consolidated their advantage through a bright unbeaten opening partnership of 82 by Aamer Malik (26 not out) and Rameez Raja (45 not out).

India folded quickly once the overnight pair Sanjay Manjrekar and Sachin Tendulkar were separated.

Tendulkar fell lbw to Imran for 59 when the Pakistani fast bowler speared the ball in to the 16-year-old batsman's pads.

Manjrekar was next to go, caught spectacularly by Salim Malik at first slip to give debutant paceman Naveed Anjum his first Test wicket.

Anjum then grabbed the prize wicket of Kapil Dev for a duck and Imran quickly wrapped up the tail.

India's total was inflated by 55 extras, including 22 no-balls and 15 wides.

Left-arm pace bowler Wasim Akram was the main no-ball culprit and failed to add to his three wickets on the first day.

Salim Jaffer, the fourth member of Pakistan's pace bowling lineup, did not bowl today after straining his shoulder.

India were 263 for seven at



Imran: took four for 45

lunch, and Imran polished off the tail afterwards by having Kiran More lbw. Maninder Singh snapped up by a diving Rameez Raja at backward short leg, and Vivek Razdan caught by substitute Ejaz Ahmed at the same spot.

Yesterday, a stand of 99 between Sanjay Manjrekar and Tendulkar rescued India after Pakistan fast bowler Wasim captured three wickets in nine overs.

Manjrekar and Tendulkar took India from 101 for four to 200 for four when bad light ended play 30 minutes before the scheduled close on the opening day.

The pair halted a slump in which four wickets tumbled for 33 after India, put in on a grassy pitch, had been guided to 68 without loss by captain Krishnamachari Srikkanth and first wicket partner Navot Siddhu.

Wasim then jolted the touring team in his second spell by



Rameez: unbeaten on 45

removing Srikkanth for 36, Siddhu for 20 and Mohammad Azharuddin without scoring. Fellow left-arm paceman Jaffer dispatched Ravi Shastri for 11.

However, Manjrekar, who survived chances on three and 13, and Tendulkar restored India's fortunes by the end of a day that had started encouragingly for the touring team.

India, who forced a draw in the first Test in Karachi, made their best start in their last seven Tests

bled by Jaffer, who beat him outside the off-stump several times before finding the edge of the Indian vice-captain's bat for Abbasi to take a magnificent catch.

Manjrekar, whose unbeaten 113 helped India draw in Karachi, looked increasingly impressive yesterday and completed his half century by driving Jaffer for his sixth four.

## Scoreboard

INDIA first innings (overnight 200 for four)	
K. Srikkanth lbw b Akram	36
N. Siddhu c Abbasi b Akram	20
S. Manjrekar c Malik b Anjum	76
M. Azharuddin lbw b Akram	0
R. Shastri c Abbasi b Jaffer	11
S. Tendulkar lbw b Imran	59
M. Prabhakar not out	24
Kapil Dev lbw b Anjum	0
K. More lbw b Imran	4
Maninder Singh c Raja b Imran	3
V. Razdan c Jaffer (sub) b Imran	0
Extras (b-2 lb-16 nb-22 w-15)	55
Total (in 113.1 overs)	288

Fall of wickets: 1-68-2-74-3-85-4-101-5-244-6-252-7-253-8-278-9-284.

Bowling: Imran 26.1-7-45-4, Wasim Akram 36-4-107-3, Salim Jaffer 17-4-54-1, Naveed Anjum 29-6-57-2, Abdul Qadir 3-1-7-0.

PAKISTAN first innings

Aamer Malik not out	26
Rameez Raja not out	45
Extras (b-1 lb-3 nb-5 w-2)	11
Total (no wicket)	82

To bat: Shoaib Mohammad, Javed Miandad, Salim Malik, Imran Khan (captain), Nadeem Abbasi, Naveed Anjum, Wasim Akram, Abdul Qadir, Salim Jaffer.

Bowling (to date): Kapil Dev 10-6-20-0, Prabhakar 7-2-21-0, Razdan 5-0-24-0, Maninder Singh 6-2-13-0.

## Boon hammers Kiwis for 169 Siddons, Phillips blast Sri Lankans

## Australia march on



David Boon

PERTH, Australia, Nov 24. (Reuters): Australia carried on against New Zealand where they left off in England, David Boon hitting 169 not out as the home side amassed 296 for two on the first day of their cricket Test today.

New Zealand's decision to bowl after winning the toss in the only Test of a short tour brought them scant reward with their limited attack rarely troubling the in-form Australian batsmen, who look set to score 400 in their first innings for the ninth consecutive Test.

Boon who failed to score a century in the 4-0 Ashes triumph on this year's tour of England, drove and cut superbly to run up his eighth Test century after being restored to opener, his favoured batting position, because of injury to Geoff Marsh.

Boon, who is 15 runs short of

his highest Test score, received solid support from Tom Moody in the second session but after tea captain Allan Border sparked a thrilling onslaught by hitting 45 not out and putting on 119 with Boon in 127 minutes.

Tasmanian Boon hit 25 boundaries off an attack which badly missed its premier paceman Richard Hadlee, prevented by injury from touring, and off-spinner John Bracewell, ruled out with a finger injury before the start of play.

Moody, in his Test debut, scored 61 on his home pitch and shared a second wicket partnership of 149 with Boon, who gave only one difficult chance in six hours at the crease.

New Zealand captain John Wright put down a scorching chance at gully off pace bowler Danny Morrison when Boon, on 73, tried to flick a third successive ball over the slips for four.

The Wright-Morrison combination had given New Zealand early hope when a fine catch in the gully low to Wright's left disposed of Mark Taylor, Australia's top scorer in England with 339 Test runs. Taylor made nine.

Boon had showed his intentions early on by flat-batting a Morrison bouncer back over the bowler's head.

## Scoreboard

AUSTRALIA first innings	
M. Taylor c Wright b Morrison	9
D. Boon not out	169
T. Moody c Smith b Snedden	61
A. Border not out	45
Extras (b-1 lb-4 nb-7)	12
Total (for two wickets)	296

Fall of wickets: 1-28-2-177. To bat: O. Jones, S. Waugh, I. Healy, G. Lawson, M. Hughes, T. Alderman, C. Rackemann.

Bowling (to date): Morrison 19-5-75-1 (2nb), Cairns 12-2-50-0, Snedden 21-6-52-1 (4nb), Watson 16-2-56-0 (1nb), Patel 19-3-48-0.

## Jockeys fined after losing their way

LONDON, Nov 24. (Reuters): Jockeys Bruce Dowling and David Hood were fined for losing their way after the last fence at the English Midlands track of Ludlow yesterday.

Both were a long way clear of the rest of the runners, but instead of coming over to the stand side, Hood on the 5-2 on favourite Gay Edition and Dowling, riding I Like It A Lot, went on to jump the first fence of the next circuit.

Their mistake gave Career Bay the race at odds of 11-2. Winning trainer Derek Haydn Jones joked: "It was all a planned strategy. We thought we'd let the first two get lost and then come on to win the race."

Over £10,000 (\$15,600) in big bets had been taken on Gay Edition and stewards held an immediate inquiry. Dowling was fined £500 (\$780) and Hood, an apprentice, £400 (\$625).

Gay Edition's trainer Philip Hobbs said: "I feel sorry for David. It was completely his fault and there is no excuse. It's happened before that a jockey has gone the wrong way and it will happen again."

## Carroll House favours soft ground

## Top fancy may face tough going

TOKYO, Nov 24. (Reuters): Favourite Carroll House drew an outside position yesterday for the Japan Cup horse race, but the British colt may face a more serious problem if the weather does not change by race time on Sunday.

Newmarket-trained Carroll House drew position 11 for the Cup, Japan's only international race.

Carroll House, winner of the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe last month, favours soft ground, but dry, clear conditions have made the surface at the Tokyo race course especially firm.

"It does worry me, but he has run some good races on firm ground," Carroll House trainer Michael Jarvis said at the draw.

Jarvis said the British-based but Japanese-owned four-year-old was in good shape and did not lose any weight in the trip to Japan for the 1-1/2 mile (2.4 km) turf race, which offers first prize money of 134 million yen (\$937,000).

With doubts growing about conditions for Carroll House, eyes have been turning to US-trained Hawtaker, drawn in sixth position. Hawtaker has run four times on turf and won every time, and the three-year-old colt set a world's record for 1-1/2 miles at Santa Anita in October.

Hawtaker has been in good form since he arrived in Japan, and track conditions "are very good for him," trainer Ronald McAnnally said.

Hawtaker was singled out as the horse to beat by Robert Frankel, trainer of Pay the Butler, the five-year-old that won last year's Cup. "Anytime you have a horse as fast as Hawtaker you must be concerned," Frankel said.

The US-based, Japanese-owned Pay the Butler drew 14, and the outside position matched the chances being given the horse, who has had a mixed record since last year's Cup.

Six-year-old New Zealand-based mare Horlicks drew the second position and five-year-old British-trained horse Iba Bey drew four.

Iba Bey jockey Richard Quinn said his horse is in great form, but trainer Paul Cole said he was concerned about some weight loss by the horse.

Among leading Japan-based horses, Inari One and Oguri Cap drew 12 and three respectively.

Inari One, a five-year-old, entered national horse racing in Japan this year and gained attention with a win in the Spring Emperor's Cup last month.

Jockey Masato Shibata said he felt there was "a lack of energy" on the part of Inari One in that race, but workouts for Sunday's race were showing the horse in better form.

1. Top Sunrise (France) Frederick Head; 2. Horlicks (New Zealand) Lance O'Sullivan; 3. Oguri Cap (Japan) Katsumi Minai; 4. Iba Bey (Britain) Richard Quinn; 5. Bamboo Memory (Japan) Masahiro Matsunaga; 6. Super Creek (Japan) Yutaka Take; 7. Running Free (Japan) Yasuo Sugawara; 8. Hawtaker (US) Russell Baze; 9. Kiri Power (Japan) Yoshitomi Shibata; 10. Fresh Voice (Japan) Hitoshi Matoba; 11. Carroll House (Britain) Michael Kinane; 12. Inari One (Japan) Masato Shibata; 13. Rosita (Japan) Takeshi Nozaki; 14. Pay the Butler (US) Chris McCarron; 15. Assatis (Britain) Raymond Cochrane.

much larger event over the next few years.

After winning the Dh18,000 first prize in the event, sponsored by Al-Futtaim Motors, Toyota, Australian star Corrinne Dibnah said: "I have really enjoyed playing in Dubai again."

"The atmosphere is great and everybody is made to feel welcome. I hope this event gets bigger and bigger and that we will eventually have a full-scale ladies' professional tournament in Dubai. All the ladies from the European tour would love to play here."

Dibnah, one of 12 professionals flown to Dubai by Emirates, the official carrier for the tournament, played immaculate golf

throughout the tournament.

With Dh78,000 in prize money being decided by the professionals' aggregate scores over two rounds, defending champion Dale Reid of Scotland, Europe's most successful lady golfer, led by two shots at the half way stage from Dibnah and another Scottish player, Jane Connachan.

Dibnah saved her best golf for the final day, going on to win by five shots from Reid, Connachan and former Ladies British Open champion Alison Nicholas of England.

During the tournament the professionals also joined up with teams of three amateurs on two days

## Belgium press claims for World Cup seeding

BRUSSELS, Nov 24. (Reuters): Belgium have written to the World Cup organisers pressing their claim to be seeded at next year's finals in Italy, a Belgian Soccer Union official said today.

Alain Courtois, secretary-general of the Belgian Soccer Union, said a letter had been sent to Hermann Neuberger, chairman of the World Cup organising committee, to remind him of Belgium's claims to a place among the six seeded nations.

World Cup seedings will be decided by the International Football Federation (Fifa) on December 7 on the basis of 1990 qualifying results and past performances in the competition, which should favour Belgium as 1989 World Cup semifinalists.

But persistent rumours have suggested that the World Cup organising committee may give England the seeding vote to ensure the team spend the early stages of the competition in Caagliari, on the island of Sardinia, the only venue where England's infamous supporters can be isolated.

"After hearing these rumours we thought it was time to react, because England would not be seeded because of sporting reasons but for negative ones involving hooliganism and safety measures," Courtois said.

He said a copy of the letter to Neuberger had been sent to Jose Havelange and Sepp Blatter, president and secretary-general of Fifa respectively.

Spain have also expressed concern at England being seeded ahead of them, although there were suggestions from World Cup sources in Rome this week that England would play in Sardinia whether they were seeded or not.

Argentina, Italy, Brazil and West Germany are certain to be seeded and the Netherlands, as European championship winners, must also be strong contenders.

## England get in shape for West Indies

LONDON, Nov 24. (Reuters): England's cricketers are to begin a six-week fitness programme next week to knock them into shape before their tour to the West Indies begins in January.

Every player will have a target weight to achieve before departure and will be split into groups for twice-weekly sessions at six indoor cricket schools around the country. England will also be put through a five-day intensive course at Lillishall with the aim of ensuring that the party is the fittest ever to leave England.

Team manager Micky Stewart said: "It is essential that we do this preparation at home to make sure we are ready."

The last time England toured the West Indies four years ago, the players met up just two days before their departure.

One of the last male bastions in English cricket could collapse next month when the Lancashire country club vote whether to grant women full membership.

The annual meeting at the club's Old Trafford headquarters on December 9 will debate a motion for women, currently classed as subscribers, to be given equal rights with male members.

Maureen Fitzgibbon, chairman of the club's ladies' committee, said on Wednesday: "Last year a similar resolution won 60 per cent of the vote, just short of the required two-thirds majority. But this time we think we will do it."

The motion, proposed by the all-male Lancashire committee, would give women voting powers, the right to stand for office and to enter the pavilion.

## Mauritius bans horse race

PORT LOUIS, Nov 24. (Reuters): Mauritius has banned an international horse race due to take place in the capital Port Louis tomorrow because the participants included jockeys from South Africa, the Le Mauricien newspaper reported today.

"Foreign governments have their eyes on us. We cannot accept that those riders participate in a meeting here before flying to South Africa," it quoted a government official as saying.

There was no immediate comment from the government. The newspaper said among several foreign riders expected for the race were South Africans Geoffrey Lloyd and Michael Roberts.

The Indian Ocean island of Mauritius has flourishing trade links with South Africa and is a holidaymakers, but politically it takes a strong line against apartheid.

## Dubai could stage another major event



Corrinne Dibnah on her way to victory

DUBAI: The desert golf course instigated by UAE Defence Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum could next become the venue for a full-scale ladies' professional tournament featuring around 100 players from the European circuit.

Already the Emirates Golf Club in Dubai has staged the 1988 Pan Arab Championship, as well as the Dh1.7 million Karl Liten Overseas Desert Classic which in March this year became the first men's professional tournament to be staged in the middle East.

Now, following the success of the 2nd Toyota Ladies Pro-Am Challenge at the course, the tournament could develop into a



## SPORTS

## Arsenal crash out of Cup

LONDON, Nov 24, (Reuters): English champions Arsenal suffered a humiliating 3-1 defeat by Second Division Oldham in the fourth round of the League Cup on Wednesday.

Arsenal were determined not to be put off by Oldham's plastic pitch but there was nothing artificial about the result.

Two goals by former Manchester United striker Andy Ritchie set up Oldham's first triumph against top division opponents for 66 years. He struck seconds before halftime then added another in the 74th minute. Nick Henry had made it 2-0 after 64 minutes.

Niall Quinn replied in the 90th minute but Arsenal had looked ill at ease from the start.

Arsenal's First Division neighbours Tottenham escaped with a 2-2 draw at Third Division Tranmere. An equalising own goal by Dave Higgins kept Tottenham in the hunt for the quarterfinal place after Tranmere had stunned them with two second half goals in 11 minutes. Paul Gascoigne was on target for Tottenham after 31 minutes.

Welsh international goalkeeper Neville Southall, whose form has been patchy in Everton's recent poor run, blundered with only eight minutes left against holders Nottingham Forest.

He was penalised for holding the ball too long and Lee Chapman fired home the only goal of the tie from Nigel Clough's free kick.

Second Division West Ham beat First Division Wimbledon 1-0 in a bitter clash. Martin Allen volleying home in the 81st minute.

The referee was given a police escort off the pitch at the end after sending off West Ham captain Julian Dicks for a late tackle on Wimbledon's Dennis Wise. Six players were booked.

There was also a 17-player brawl late in the first half after wise fouled Dicks.

Dutchman Hans Gilhaus fired Aberdeen to the top of the Scottish championship with his third goal in two games.

The former PSV Eindhoven striker, signed for a club record £650,000 (\$1 million) last week, hit a sparkling 24th minute goal in 1-0 win against Glasgow Rangers.

English Soccer League title challengers Chelsea are banking on the new combination of player-coach Graham Roberts and captain Peter Nicholas taking them from strength to strength.

Roberts and Nicholas, given their new roles last week, can make an early impact by helping second-placed Chelsea go top of the First Division when they face Manchester United at Old Trafford tomorrow.

Chelsea, who won the Second Division title last season, have the chance to take over from leaders Arsenal for 24 hours at least because the defending champions are playing on Sunday against third-placed Liverpool at Anfield in a match to be televised live.

Chelsea, a point behind fellow Londoners Arsenal, reshaped their set-up when assistant manager Ian Porterfield left. The coaching position went to former England defender Roberts, who was succeeded as club skipper by midfielder Nicholas.

Nicholas said: "Graham will help out with the coaching, but he is still first and foremost a player. I'm the captain on the pitch and I'll make decisions that hopefully will benefit the team — and I'll stand up and be counted."

Chelsea face a Manchester United side who have won three of their last four games to move up to ninth place.

Everton return to Forest tomorrow for a First Division game. It gives Southall the opportunity to erase the memory of his chequered display in the Cup-tie.

Scottish League champions Glasgow Rangers, despite losing at Aberdeen on Wednesday, convinced manager Graeme Souness they will keep the title.

**Results**  
English League Cup fourth round  
Derby 2 West Brom 0  
Manchester C 1 Coventry 1  
Nottingham 1 Everton 0  
Oldham 3 Arsenal 1  
Tottenham 2 Tottenham 2  
West Ham 1 Wimbledon 0  
Scottish Premier Division  
Aberdeen 1 Rangers 0  
Celtic 1 St Mirren 1  
(Both postponed from November 11)  
Football Association (FA) Cup  
First round replays  
Exeter 1 Darford 1  
(Exeter away to Maidstone in the second round)  
Fulham 2 Bath 1  
(Fulham away to Bristol City)  
Stockport 1 Burnley 2  
(Burnley away to Scunthorpe)  
Torquay 4 Sutton 0  
(Torquay away to Basingstoke)  
Welling 0 Gillingham 0  
(Welling away to Bristol Rovers or Reading)

## Italians jolted in European soccer

## Milan hold Barcelona

BARCELONA, Nov 24, (Reuters): Injury-hit AC Milan drew 1-1 with Barcelona in the first leg of the European Soccer Super Cup yesterday.

The European Cup holders were without sweeper Franco Baresi, who broke an arm last weekend, joining long-term casualties Ruud Gullit, midfielder Carlo Ancelotti and defender Filippo Galli.

The absences were often evident as trainer Arrigo Sacchi's young substitutes found themselves facing a relentless attack by the Cup Winners' Cup holders.

But in the 44th minute of a first half which had seen Barcelona make most of the running, European Footballer of the Year Marco van Basten put the Italians ahead with a penalty.

The goal came after a typical Milan counter-attack. Daniele Massaro broke away only to be brought down inside the area by Brazilian defender Aloisio.

Guillermo Amor levelled midway through the second half.

Barcelona's best chance in the first half came in the 41st minute when Eusebio Sacristan found Txiki Beguiristain in front of

goal. But the Spanish international striker had no time to angle the shot and Giovanni Gall saved easily.

It was fast and furious in the second half with Galli leaping to save shots from Julio Salinas and Sacristan in the 60th and 62nd minutes.

The hard work finally paid off in the 68th minute. Young defender Stefano Salvatore floundered as Roberto Fernandez, who had come on for Salinas four minutes earlier, passed to Amor who scored easily.

Milan had few chances near goal. When they did press forward Victor Serna effectively blocked Van Basten and Ronald Koeman was ever on hand to clear.

With away goals counting double Milan are favourites to lift the trophy after the return leg on December 7.

Diego Maradona's Napoli wobbled again on Wednesday in their shaky defence of the European Football Union (UEFA) Cup title.

Napoli were beaten 3-2 by Werder Bremen, while Fiorentina and Juventus managed only

one-goal leads as none of the favoured Italian clubs capitalised properly on home advantage in their third round, first leg games.

Maradona, dropped for Napoli's last UEFA Cup encounter, played this time with painkillers numbing a hurt back but must still have ached in spirit as his side succumbed to the West Germans.

New Zealander Wynton Rufer netted in the dying seconds to fire Werder's hopes of a place in the last eight and revenge over Italy for last season's European Cup dismissal by AC Milan after a controversial penalty.

Napoli have already enjoyed more than their share of luck, first ousting Sporting Lisbon in a penalty shootout despite a miss from the spot by Maradona and then coming from behind to scrape through 2-1 against Swiss Minnows Wettingen when the temperamental Argentine was dropped for missing training.

Frank Neubarth and Karlheinz Riedle gave Werder a 2-0 lead with goals either side of the interval, but Brazilians Alemao and Careca hit back swiftly and Napoli were all square midway through the second half.

But there was no more joy for Napoli. Alemao was carried off on a stretcher clutching his head after a clash with Werder defenders, Maradona had a solo goal disallowed and finally Rufer struck.

Roberto Baggio, rising star of Italian soccer, scored a penalty 12 minutes from the final whistle to give Fiorentina a 1-0 edge over Dynamo Kiev, who played most of the game with 10 men.

Kiev winger Ivan Yaremchuk was sent off for a foul on Baggio in the 35th minute but Soviet international colleague Viktor Chanchov in goal kept the Italians at bay with a succession of spectacular saves until Baggio beat him from the spot after Vladimir Bessonov brought down Alberto di Chiara.

Juventus, UEFA Cup champions in 1977, needed two goals in the last 10 minutes to gain the edge over visiting East Germans Karl-Marx-Stadt, who took a 68th minute lead through Weinhold.

Salvatore Schillaci enhanced his growing reputation as a striker with an 81st minute equaliser and Pierluigi Casiraghi made it 2-1 with three minutes left.

Over 400 East German fans, making the most of new opportunities to travel to the West, received red-carpet treatment from Juventus supporters' clubs, with a tour of Turin before the game and free match tickets.

Yugoslav international Dejan Savicevic scored twice in four minutes late in the second half, the second a 79th-minute summer after dribbling round three defenders, to give Red Star Belgrade a 2-0 lead over Cologne to take to West Germany in two weeks.

Kalman Kovacs gave French club Auxerre a 21st-minute lead at Olympiques Piraeus but fellow Hungarian Lejos Detari responded with a compelling midfield display for the Greeks, who finished all-square at 1-1 after 32nd minute equaliser by Nikos Anastopoulos.

Thomas von Heesen netted three minutes after the interval to give Hamburg a 1-0 advantage for the return against Porto in a duel between two former European Cup holders.

That left West Germany with two clubs in front — Werder and Hamburg — and two behind — Cologne and last season's beaten finalists VfB Stuttgart, shaded 1-0 at Antwerp on Tuesday — after their first-leg encounters.

Zlatko Kranjcar scored from a free-kick two minutes into the second half to give Rapid Vienna a 1-0 edge when they travel to Belgium for the second leg against FC Liege.

Napoli are counting the cost of Wednesday's defeat as they prepare for their crunch Italian League match at Juventus on Sunday.

Maradona should be fit to play, according to club doctors. But Massimo Mauro and Marco Baroni are both in doubt for Sunday and Brazilian Alemao is likely to be missing for at least a fortnight.

Napoli's other Brazilian, Careca, and defender Alessandro Rinaudo will also have fitness tests before the leaders meet third-placed Juventus.



Nicola Napoli (left) in action with Karl-Marx-Stadt's Steinmann. (Reuters wirephoto)

Champions Internazionale, badly missing injured German captain Lothar Matthaus, play away to Atlanta without full back Riccardo Ferri, who injured his back in last weekend's 3-0 defeat by AC Milan.

Fiorentina travel to Cesena with the entire population of Florence convinced that national soccer coach Azeglio Vicini is underestimating the talents of brilliant young midfielder Roberto Baggio. "Even a blind man can see Baggio — wake up Vicini," said one banner after Baggio scored his fourth goal in four days in Fiorentina's victory against Dynamo Kiev.

In the Spanish League, title holders Real Madrid, three points clear of their three main challengers, are likely to retain their lead when they play host to sixth-placed Zaragoza this weekend.

Real president Ramon Mendoza has denied reports that he wants to sign Welsh international goalkeeper Neville Southall.



A defender from AC Milan tries to block the advance of Barcelona's Danish striker Michel Laudrup (right). (Reuters wirephoto)



Milan's Stefano Salvatore (left) jumps to kick the ball ahead of Barcelona's Txiki Beguiristain. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Finn scores first world win

NOTTINGHAM, England, Nov 24, (Reuters): Driving the closing stages "like my mother" Pentti Airikkala won his first world championship rally yesterday after 24 years in the sport.

Success in the British Rally was achieved at the age of 44 by the English-based Finn. "I'm a bit slow leader," joked Airikkala, whose triumph at Mitsubishi Galant came after 12 previous attempts but Airikkala owed much to the misfortune of Carlos Sainz.

The Spaniard was leading with just five of the 55 stages remaining when his Toyota Celica was struck by mechanical problems in north Yorkshire forests.

The Finn could hardly believe his luck and took no chances after that: "I drove the final stage just as my mother would have driven it," he said.

"I feel sorry for Carlos, but only a little sorry because he is much younger than me and had lots of opportunities to do well in other rallies," added a jubilant Airikkala.

The 27-year-old Spaniard was within sight of his first major success when he suffered suspension problems, power steering failure and a broken shaft, which cost him two minutes.



Pentti Airikkala



Ronan McNamee

Airikkala's triumph was shared by Irish co-driver Ronan McNamee, a baker from Dublin, who paid tribute to Airikkala's driving skills.

"It was a magnificent performance. The weather was mild and the competition was hotter. We had to drive at

the limit to beat them," said McNamee.

Juha Kankkunen, Finland's former double world champion and 1987 British Rally winner, was third in a Toyota — two minutes 21 seconds behind Sainz.

## Pakistani pair avenge defeats

STUTTGART, West Germany, Nov 24, (Reuters): World champion Jansher Khan won down Australian Rodney Martin in the Stuttgart Open Squash Championship yesterday to avenge two straight defeats by the world number four.

Jansher won 17-14 15-12 9-15 13-15 15-8 to set up a final this evening against his compatriot Jahangir Khan.

Jahangir overcame another Australian, third-seeded Chris Dittmar, 13-15 15-13 17-16 15-7.

Martin defeated Jansher when Australia won the world team title in Singapore last month and beat him again in

the US Open final at Houston last Saturday.

A third victory looked within reach of the fourth-seeded Australian when he recovered from a two-game deficit to stand level with the second-seeded Jansher.

But Martin's erratic play, which plagued him early in the match, returned, allowing the world champion to overturn a three-point deficit to clinch the semifinal.

It was revenge also for top-seeded Jahangir, who helped wipe out the memory of two defeats by Dittmar at last month's world individual championship in Kuala Lumpur.

## Prost takes first drive in Ferrari



Prost gives the thumbs up after the drive. (Reuters wirephoto)

gears," Prost said. "This is a page in my sporting life and I am as moved as when I

made my Formula One debut (in 1980)," he told reporters. He refused to compare the

Ferrari with the McLaren-Honda and said he would need to get to know it better before passing judgement.

Prost drove the Ferrari 640, which was raced in the closing Grand Prix of 1989 season. A new model, the 641, is being prepared for next season and is expected to be ready by the end of January, Ferrari said.

McLaren agreed last week to release Prost early to begin testing with his new team instead of holding him to his contract for the rest of the year. Ferrari did the same for their McLaren-bound Austrian driver Gerhard Berger.

Prost was due to test again today, when he was to be joined by British team mate Nigel Mansell. Both will travel to Estoril, Portugal, for tyre tests from December 4 to 10.

## The sign of good taste



Made in England

Government Warning: Smoking is a major cause of cancer and diseases of the lungs, heart and arteries.



## SPORTS

## Rothmans leads in yacht race

FREMANTLE, Australia, Nov 24, (AP): British sloop Rothmans, skippered by Lawrie Smith, today took the lead for the first time on the second leg of the Whitbread round-the-world race, as the fleet edged closer to the finish line.

Rothmans moved ahead of Grant Dalton's New Zealand Ketch Fisher and Paykel, which dropped to fourth place after a disappointing 24 hours in poor winds.

Pierre Fehlmann, who finished first in the previous Whitbread race in 1985-86 and now skipper the Swiss entry Merit, was in second place this afternoon with new Zealand Ketch Steinlager II, skippered by Peter Blake, third.

Steinlager II won the first leg of the race from Southampton to Punta de Este in Uruguay.

Race officials said the four leading boats were separated by only 14 nautical miles and the situation was changing hourly as they moved towards within 300 nautical miles of the finish line after the 7,500 nautical mile second leg.

The leaders reported they had been slowed to only three knots at times and they are not now expected to finish at Fremantle until late tomorrow at the earliest.

"It would be impossible to predict who will be into Perth first," said Dalton by radio, commenting on the race for line honours.

"Picking the best approach route to Fremantle is going to be the key to winning this leg," Rothmans skipper Smith said.

After sailing through the "Furious Fifties" for the past four weeks — facing gale force winds, driving snow, and dodging icebergs — the crews are now enjoying sunny conditions, but are frustrated by the lack of wind.

The 23 yachts in the race began from England in September.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

## Graf triumphs

ESSEN, West Germany, Nov 24, (Reuters): Steffi Graf overcame her opponent, American Mary Joe Fernandez, and a noisy linesman in the \$500,000 West German Masters women's tennis tournament yesterday. Graf won her round-robin group a match 6-3 7-5 and reported no problems with the ankle injury that has bothered her for two weeks.

## Itaparica Open

ITAPARICA, Brazil, Nov 24, (Reuters): American Jay Berger overcame sweltering conditions and beat Dutchman Mark Koevermans 5-7 6-4 6-3 in the quarter-finals of the \$305,000 Itaparica Open tennis tournament yesterday.

## Petrenko leads

KOBE, Japan, Nov 24, (AP): Viktor Petrenko of the Soviet Union, displaying beautiful triple axles, took an early lead today in men's singles skating while Japanese world champion Midori Ito took the women's lead for the 1989 International Free Skating Competition NHK Trophy.

## High tackles

LONDON, Nov 24, (Reuters): The chairman of the English Rugby League, speaking a day after two players were given lengthy suspensions for dangerous fouls, warned all players today that illegal high tackles would be punished severely.

## Green ahead

TKYOO, Nov 24, (Reuters): American veteran Hubert Green took the lead with a nine-under-par total of 135 after the second round of the Casio World Golf Tournament today. Green carded eight birdies for a five-under-par round of 67, giving him a one-stroke advantage over first round leader Naomichi Ozaki of Japan.

## Grand Prix

MACAU, Nov 24, (Reuters): Scotsman Allan McNish, fresh from a test drive for McLaren's powerful Formula One team, has adapted quickly to the tortuous street circuit in this Portuguese enclave and is favourite to win Sunday's World Cup Formula Three Grand Prix.

## Indy-car race

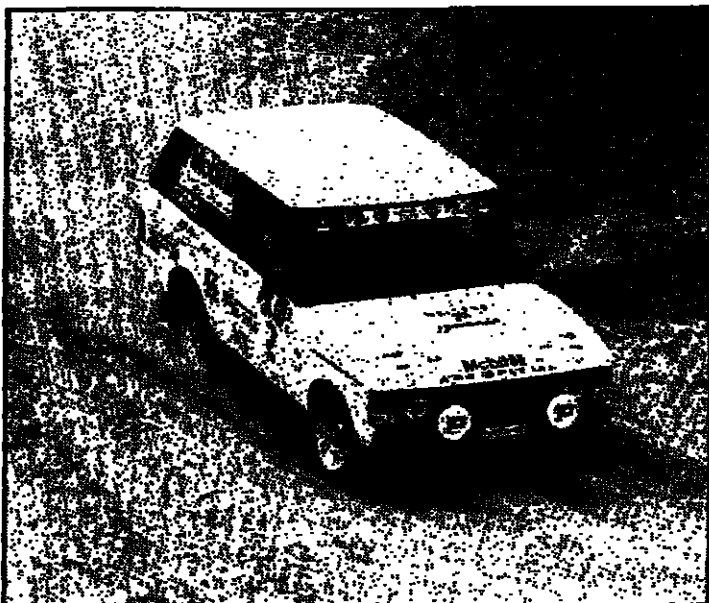
BRISBANE, Australia, Nov 24, (AP): Brisbane plans to host an Indy-car auto race in 1991, local officials announced today. Queensland state Premier Russell Cooper said his government had concluded negotiations with Championship Auto Racing Teams (CART) officials for a new venue to become the first venue outside North America to host an Indianapolis-style race.

## Bermuda Open

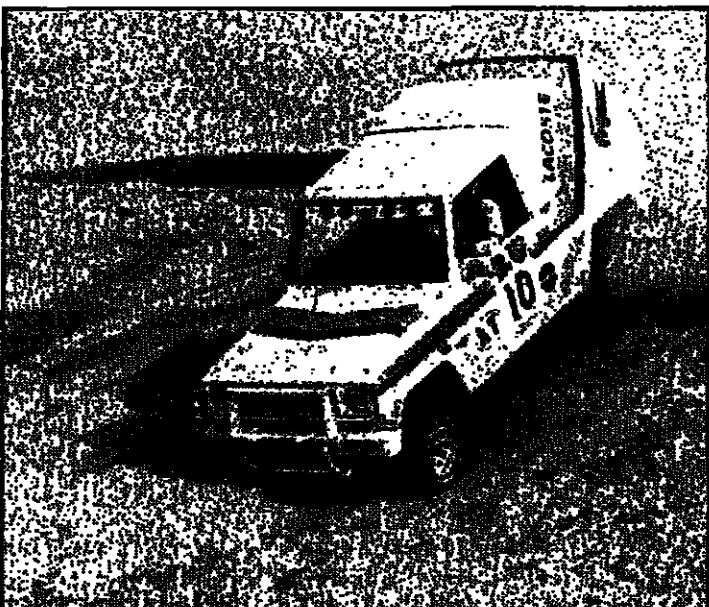
HAMILTON, Bermuda, Nov 24, (AP): England's Philip Whitlock continued his surprise run in the Bermuda Open squash tournament yesterday, crushing his countryman, second-seeded Jamie Hickox, in the semifinals. The 9-4 9-0 9-2 victory means Whitlock, who is seeded fifth, will face top-seeded Brett Martin of Australia in the final of the \$20,000 tournament. Martin is ranked eighth in the world.

## Al Mosawi fails to finish

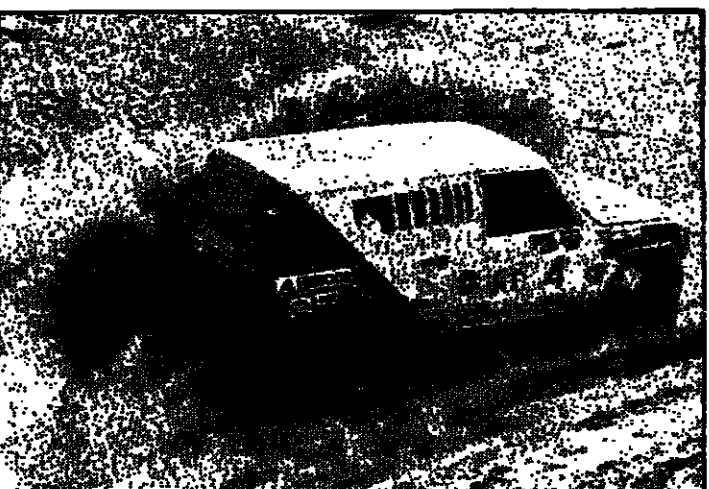
## Saleh speeds to victory in Kuwait rally



Saleh: on his way to victory



Kuwait's Tareq Al Ayan tackles a tough slope



Eid Fahal: heads towards the finish

DUBAI-BASED Lebanese driver Michel Saleh, yesterday won the BP/Alghanim 2000 Trophy in Kuwait and confirmed his second position in the 1989 Marlboro Desert Challenge series. In a classic battle with Qatar's Nasser Al Attiya he had to wait to the end of the rally to secure his victory on the final stage.

For the first time this season, Qatari ace Abbas Al Mosawi or his Mitsubishi Pajero were not first on the finish ramp. On the ninth special stage Al Mosawi's rally ended following terminal gear problems.

In the standard championship, Saudi Arabia's Mohammed Al Malki in his V6 Mitsubishi Pajero claimed victory over Qatar's Jaber Al Marri, who broke towards the end of the rally. "This is a great victory for Saudi Arabia. I have worked hard all season," said the Marlboro-backed driver. "I would like to thank Jaber who gave me a tough battle this year."

Following Attiya who was piloting a Nissan Patrol, was Eid Fahal in third overall place. "It was a bad day for us, we lost

much time when we stopped twice this morning — the engine just cut out," said Saleh's co-driver Khalid Khalifa.

In fourth overall place was Al Malki who for his victory in the Standard championship wins a week at a rally school in Finland in 1990. Al Marri who was running neck-and-neck with Mohammed had to stop when his engine mounting broke.

Many had thought that the eventual winner would not start the rally because of a fracture in his hand. He started the event in a plaster cast to his lower left arm, and in spite of considerable pain throughout the day persevered to receive his great reward.

"Yes I am delighted with my result. Maybe it was a little bit uncomfortable, but it was worth it," said Michel. "Nasser gave me a great fight after the Mitsubishi was out of the way, and I think he has a great future in Middle East Rallying."

Abbas Al Mosawi, the Desert Challenge Champion, has progressed to become one of the best known rally drivers in the Middle East.

## Top positions

BP/Alghanim trophy			
Crew	Country	Vehicle	Points
1. Saleh/Al Hajri	UAE/Qatar	Range Rover	1:40.25
2. Al Attiya/Al Marri	Qatar	Nissan Patrol	1:40.42
3. Fahal/Khalifa	Kuwait	Mitsubishi Pajero	1:46.43
4. Al Malki/Sarian	KSA/Bahrain	Mitsubishi Pajero	N/A
5. Al Ayan/Al Ayan	Kuwait	Daihatsu Rocky	1:55.84
6. Hussein/Hussein	Kuwait	Suzuki Samurai	1:57.18

Marlboro Desert Challenge — modified			
Crew	Country	Vehicle	Points
1. Abbas Al Mosawi	Qatar		48
2. Michel Saleh	Dubai		40
3. Nasser Al Attiya	Qatar		35
4. Mohammed Al Mannai	Qatar		31
5. Mamdouh Khayat	Saudi Arabia		28

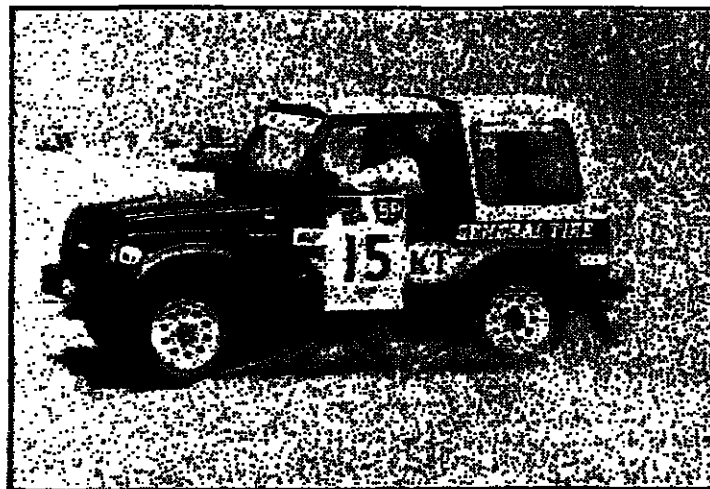
Marlboro Desert Challenge — standard			
Crew	Country	Vehicle	Points
1. Mohammed Al Malki	Saudi	Mitsubishi Pajero	
2. Jaber Al Marri	Qatar	Nissan Range Rover	
3. Tareq Al Ayan	Kuwait	Daihatsu Rocky	
4. John Ashwell	Oman	Suzuki Jeep	



A cloud of dust rises as one of the drivers goes at full speed. (Photos by Ahmed Barouni)



Saudi Arabia's Mamdouh Khayat: heads for 5th place in the Desert Challenge



Kuwait's Hussein in action

## Sahow helps Jahra edge past Qadsiya

JAHRA, who were promoted to the First Division of Kuwait Football League just two seasons ago, stunned Qadsiya, Amir Cup holders, at their own ground 2-1 in a match played on Thursday. Jahra also lead at half-time 1-0 on a 23rd minute goal scored by Sahow. Qadsiya launched a series of attacks from the start of the second half. Five minutes into the second half, Mohsen Ghanim put Qadsiya level. Jahra's Ahmad Abdul Karim scored the winner in the 29th minute from a counter-attack. Nevertheless, Qadsiya players have themselves only to blame as they missed a number of easy chances to score.

In another match played Thursday, Al Kuwait held champions Al Arabi 1-1. Khaled Ali Nasser put Al Arabi in front in the 12th minute of the first half. But Al Kuwait's Bader Al Bati capitalised on a mistake by Arabi goalkeeper, who went too forward to collect a long high pass and missed. Bati netted in the empty goal in the 8th minute of the second half.

In a third match played on Friday, Kazma and Salmiya played to a scoreless draw in a very low paced match.

## AAA cleared

LONDON, Nov 24, (Reuters): The British Amateur Athletic Association (AAA) has been cleared of any irregularities after an investigation by tax authorities into payments to athletes.

"The inland revenue (tax authority) spent two days here and have given us a clean bill of health," AAA treasurer John Lister said yesterday.

The probe followed former Olympic champion Steve Ovett's allegation he was offered money by promoter Andy Norman to run against Sebastian Coe at the AAA championships in August when Coe, the winner, had not been.

## Sulayem champion for another year

MOHAMMED BIN SULAYEM'S reign as Middle East champion will continue for another year — regardless of the result of the Emirates International Rally on November 30 and December 1.

FISA — motor sport's world governing body — has decided that the 1989 regional series is now void, following the cancellation of three of the scheduled six rounds in Jordan, Oman and Lebanon.

This means Sulayem will again be defending his Middle East title next year at the wheel of his Winston Toyota Celica GT-4, but the Fisa decision has left the UAE star with mixed feelings.

"I am very proud to be the Middle East champion," he said. "This was my aim from the beginning in rallying and winning the title three years in a row has given me a lot of satisfaction."

"With three rounds of the championship being cancelled this year, Fisa has obviously made the correct decision. But while I am pleased to be the champion for another year, I am disappointed that I have lost the chance to clinch the title again in my home rally. I was leading the

championship by three points after the Qatar and Kuwait rallies, and it would have been very difficult for anyone to catch me."

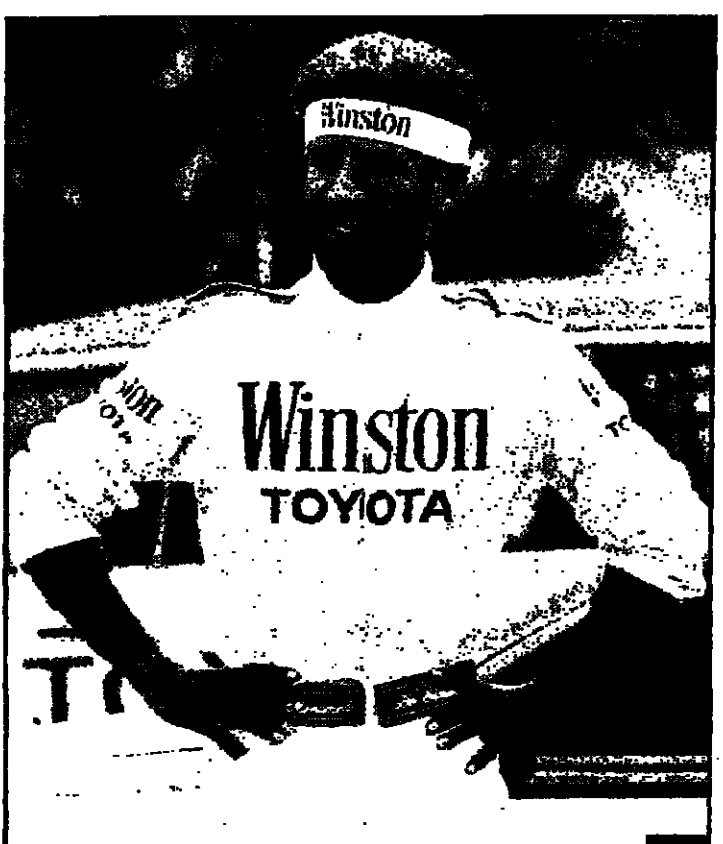
While the 1989 championship has been abandoned, the future of the series is under no immediate threat, with dates for six rounds next year now confirmed by Fisa.

The main change to the 1990 calendar is that the Kuwait International Rally has been switched from its normal slot in March to November 22-23.

Once again the championship will get under way in Qatar (February 15-16), while the other rallies follow in Jordan (May 16-18), Lebanon (October 12-14), Oman (October 24-26), and the UAE (December 20-21).

"We must all hope that this year's problems do not repeat themselves next year," and Sulayem's Winston Toyota Team Middle East manager, Terry Plant.

"Rallying in the Middle East has made a lot of progress in recent years, and it would be a great disappointment to many people if the championship disappeared."



Bin Sulayem: mixed feelings

## Fenech fights back to overcome Martinez

MELBOURNE, Australia, Nov 24, (AP): Three-time world champion Jeff Fenech of Australia rallied from a sixth-round knock-down decision to score a unanimous 12-round points decision over Mexican Mario Martinez in a WBC super-featherweight elimination bout.

Fenech, who improved his record to 24-0, dominated the first five rounds before getting caught by a left hook from Martinez. He was on his feet quickly, but the World Boxing Council fight was much closer from that point on.

Fenech is now scheduled early next year to contest the WBC super-featherweight

title held by Azumah Nelson of Ghana. Fenech, a 25-year-old Australian, will either challenge Nelson or fight for the vacant title if Nelson moves up to lightweight.

Today's title elimination match was Fenech's first fight in seven months. He was sidelined after breaking bones in both hands during an April fight against Mexican Marcos Villasana, when he retained his WBC featherweight championship.

Midway through fighting Martinez he thought he might have suffered similar damage. Both hands were very swollen

when his gloves were removed.

The fight was fought a 134-pound (60.7 kilogram) limit, four pounds (1.8 kilograms) over the super-feather limit, after Martinez had difficulty making the weight. The Mexican, whose record dropped to 48-6-2, weighed right on 134 pounds, while Fenech came in at 132.5 (60.1 kilograms).

"I was in pain, but there was no way I was going to lose," Fenech said.

"Mario is a great fighter — that's the first time I've been hit that hard — but I feel as strong after this fight as I have after any of my previous fights."

"These are the only hands I have, so I guess I'll have to live with the pain," he said. Fenech mixed his customary mauling, brawling style with clever jabs and evasion, and Martinez never really found a solution to his combinations.

The three Australian judges scored the fight 116-112, 117-113 and 120-109 in Fenech's favour.

The Australian, cheered on by a near capacity crowd at the National Entertainment Centre, batted Martinez during the last round but was unable to find a knock-out punch.

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